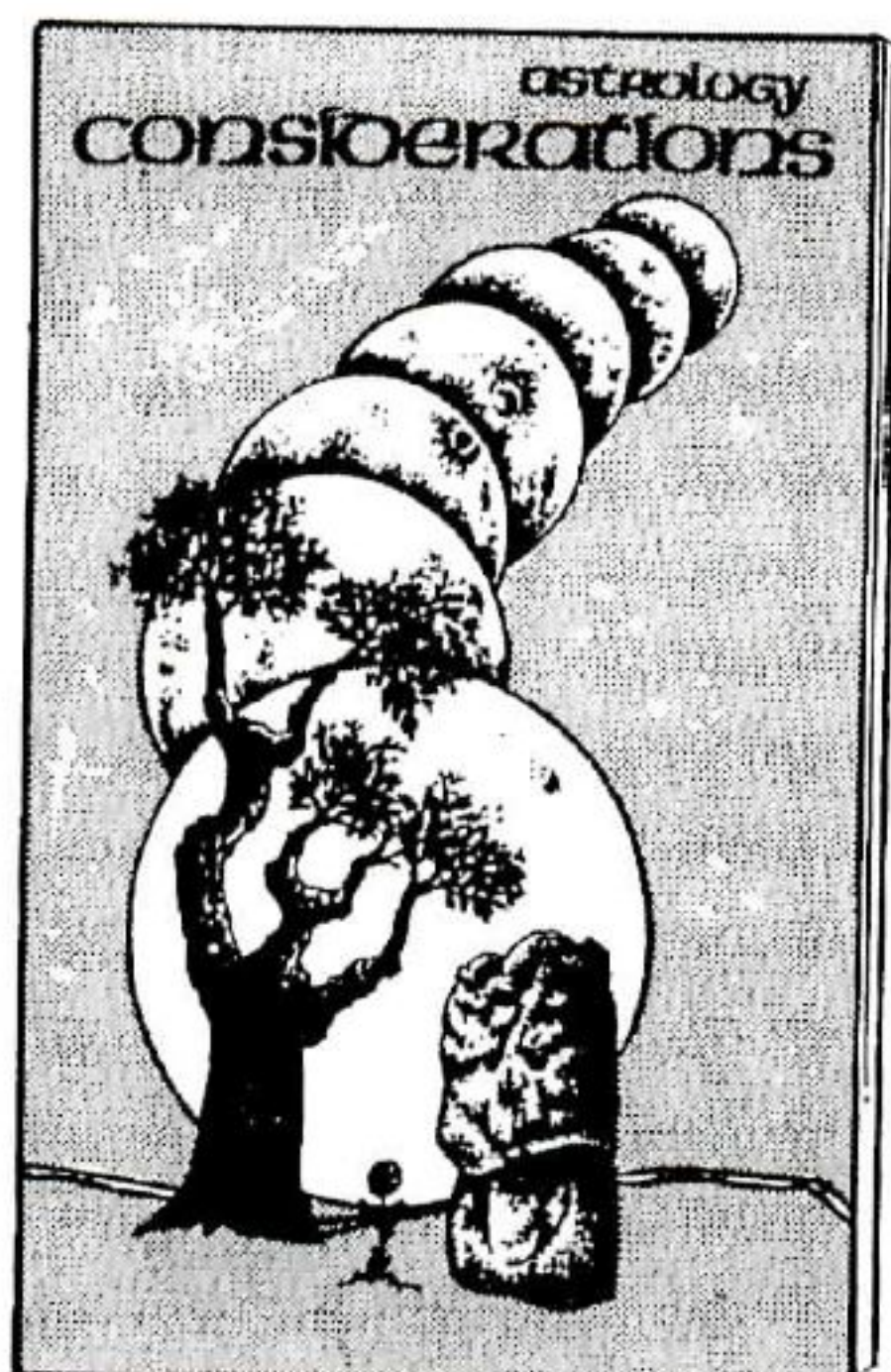


astrology considerations



Volume XV, No. 1



Considerations

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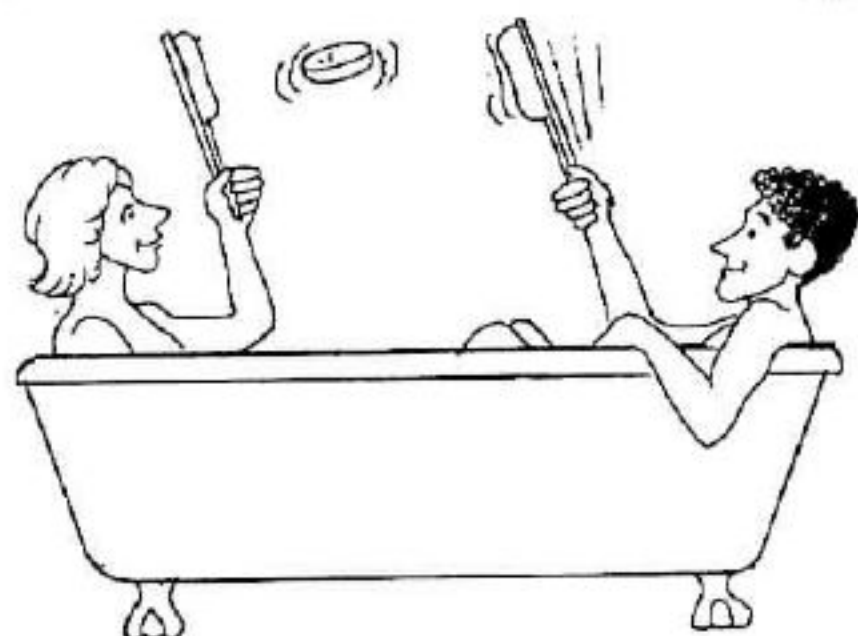
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February - April 2000

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These Considerations

WHETHER or not this is the first issue of *Considerations* in a new millennium or even in a new century depends on how one tallies the years and whether or not one uses Pope Gregory's calendar. We've decided that it's the first 4-digit year to begin with a 2 – hurrah! To Pythagoreans the 2 represented the Dyad. They said that while the 1, which they knew as the Monad, manifested unification, the Dyad symbolizes separation and was daring and different. Astrologers may better regard the 2 as representing the opposition aspect, in contrast to the conjunction of the 1. However you look at it, we're now beyond the range of the Nostradamus' predictions, even if he does appear to have gone out with a somewhat belated, maybe-correct forecast of the violent hurricanes that battered France ("from the skies") during the last week of the old year. We're on our own now.

For starters: What did you make of the chart for the turnover between millennia? All of the bodies contained within the close opposition from the ♃ in ♍ to a retrograde ♃ in the 8th house. This applied no matter where in the world you were watching firework displays as the clock struck midnight. Does this, because of the houses and signs this pair are in, signify global economic disasters, a major depression? Does it tell us the world will again become a fearful, suspicious and mistrusting place? In Tokyo the ♃ had first to square ♄ (signifying a period of emotional excitement), then sextile the ☉ (vigorous growth) before perfecting its opposition to ♃. By the time Y2K reached Europe and began heading across to the Americas the ♃ had passed ♄ and was applying to * ☉. Chicago missed any solar intervention and had the ♃ applying directly to ♄ ♃. The depressive ♃ ♄ ♃ was exact across the US and Canadian plains. For Denver and places west thereof the new millennium began after the ♃ had separated from ♄ ♃ and was applying itself to ☐ ♄ – the new year did begin rather poorly in several places west of the Rockies, there were unusually angry winter storms and the stocks of several high-tech companies based thereabouts fell rather precipitously on the exchanges. Is there anything in these start-of-a-year or century charts? Should we advise clients to buy corn futures?

There's much better astrology in the remainder of this issue.

Nicole Girard analyzed the earthquake in Turkey that occurred a week or so after August's solar eclipse and, based on her findings, listed when subsequent major earthquakes could be expected to occur. She's been very accurate so far.

Shelagh Kendal has been looking back over the past few decades. Her thoughts on the influence of the outer planets and how they have influenced the last half-dozen US presidencies make interesting reading.

Andrew Patterson reports on some groundwork that is being carried out by a group of astrologers in South Africa to improve the teaching of person-centered astrology. Whether you feel they're oversimplifying matters or not, we find their approach stimulating.

Anne Whitaker continues her insightful analysis of the effect the 1997 ♄ ♂ ♀ had on people whose natal charts were greatly stimulated by this conjunction. You should enjoy this.

Horary astrology is fully represented in this issue by **Ruth Baker, Olivia Barclay, Karen Christino, Hideaki Shuseh Kokubu** and **Constantine Zinoni**. They make it all seem so simple.

Two writers, both Pauls, are new to *Considerations*:

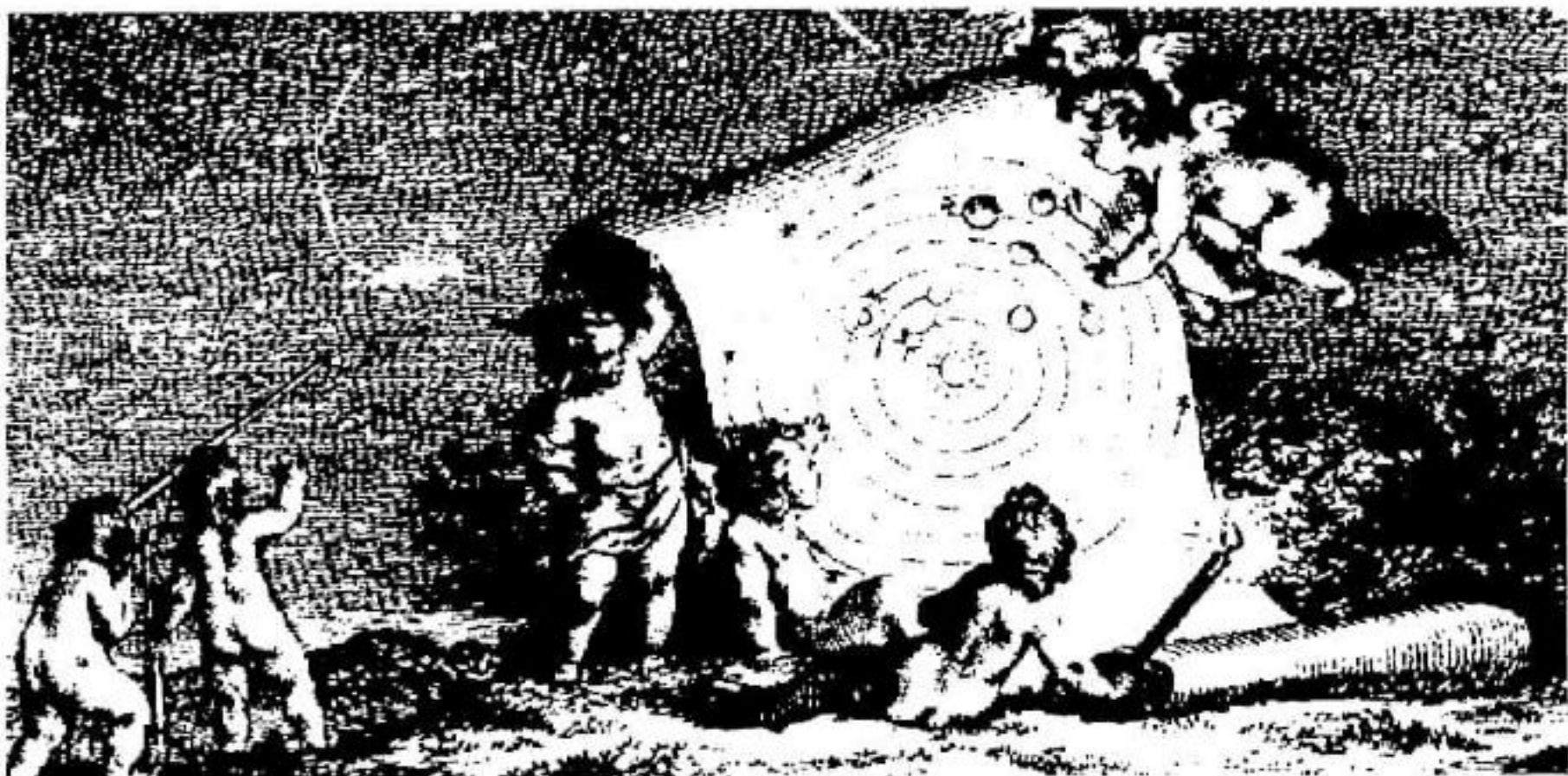
Paul Mahler Dam, whose expertise is well known throughout Europe, takes us back into the 16th century and introduces us to a Henrik Rantzau, the astrologer at the court of the Emperor Charles V. Paul reminds us of the real value there is in identifying house rulerships when interpreting charts.

The other newcomer, **Paul Robinson** describes a 12-way model of consciousness that he believes can add to our understanding of the mysteries of the horoscope.

And there is also Let's Consider, Data etc. and Books Considered.

Finally, your editor, having been accused of huddling quietly in his warm 12th nook these past few issues, comments on the charts of President Ronald Reagan (yes, finally we know his time of birth) and the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Enjoy





The Spiritual State of a Nation

SHELAGH KENDAL

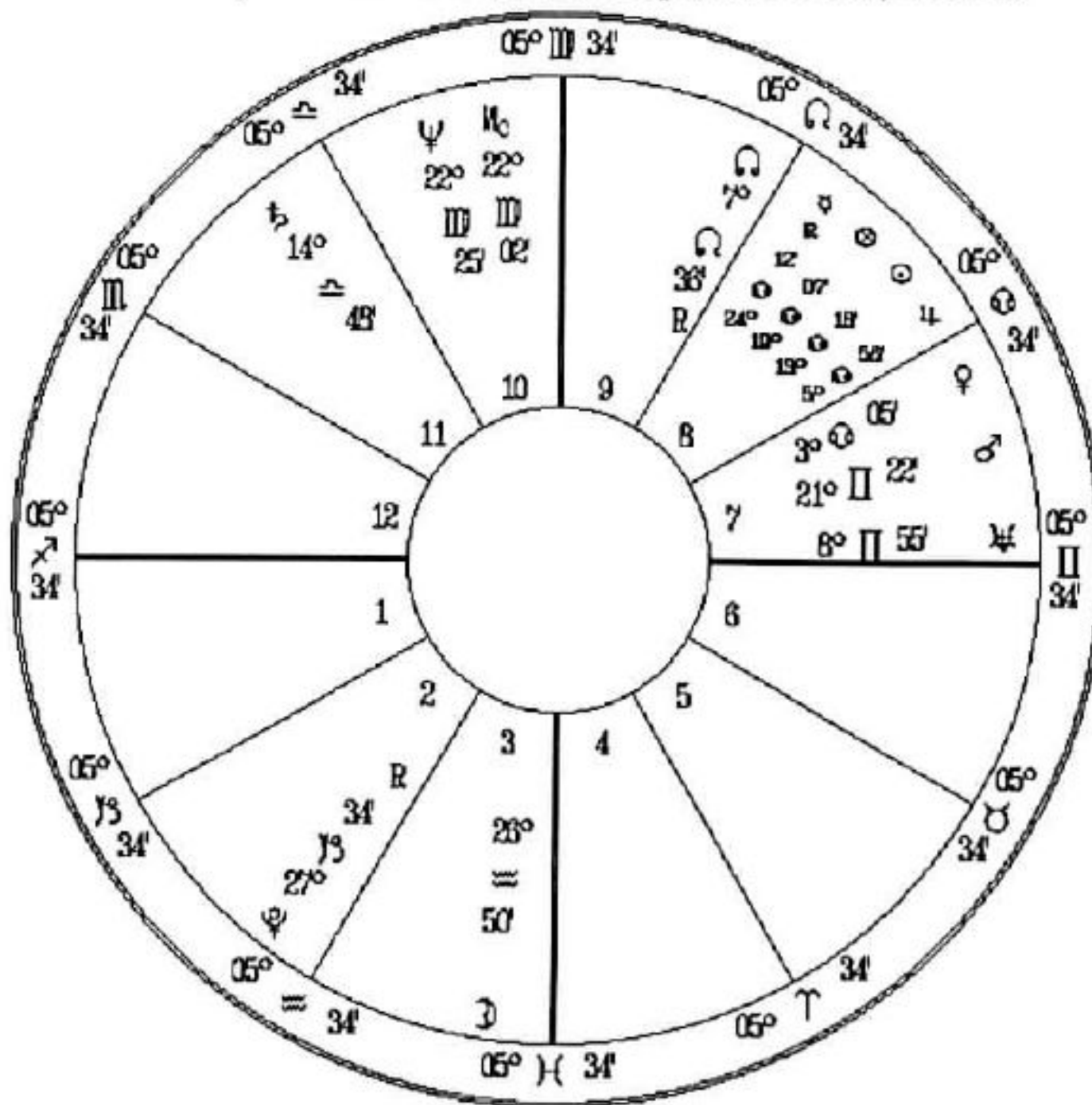
THE CLINTON SAGA, exposing the character weaknesses of one man, could have as much to do with the collective problems of the United States as with his personal ones. After all he is the present icon of the nation and must be expressing something about its nature, all presidents do. With astrology describing the conscious and unconscious workings of people and nations, a look at the US chart and its present aspects can give many clues as to the psychological and spiritual state of the Union, and why such a powerful country has been fighting itself

Taking the signing of the Declaration of Independence as the moment of birth, the symbolism in the natal chart of the country describes extraordinary strengths but also weaknesses in the high purpose proposed for a brand new republic. It also shows that the second half of this century has been a crucial testing time and that internal crises will continue to threaten society's structure until they are accepted as spiritual lessons that have to be faced squarely.

The Founding Fathers approached the building of a new country with intellectual depth and idealistic intent, but their dreams have long been negated. The original motives, to free the population from venality of the British crown and base its governing on genuine service and honest laws,

have been lost in the mistaken expectation that the "pursuit of happiness" means making a lot of money. Historian Paul Johnson has called the creation of the United States "the greatest of all human adventures... demanding moral purpose that will be a model for the entire planet." Something has gone terribly wrong with those original intentions. Tension between Alexander Hamilton's financial hierarchy and Thomas Jefferson's vision of self-sufficiency has always existed but the imbalance has become so great it is now destructive. The polarization of the powerful and powerless has left a dangerous void in the middle.

USA
4:36:50 PM LMT, July 4th 1776
Independence Hall, Philadelphia: 39N57, 75W09



The revolutionary period near the end of the 18th century, when ♃ was about to be discovered, held visions of changing mores for the political scene. America, as the New World with its aims for building a humanitarian society has had experiences that set it apart from other continents with their old systems deeply entrenched.

The outer planets, ♃, ♅ and ♁ were in critical positions in July 1776 and these three slow planets, and public reaction to their movements, tell an interesting story about the collective energies that depict the evolu-

tionary forces in human nature and how they have shaped American history. How to deal with them are the three major lessons for our own planet during this concentrated century. They are the forces in the Great Invocation to "Let Light, Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth."

K ruler of ♁, discovered in 1781 at the start of a revolutionary era, is the planet most representative of the United States since it symbolizes the urge for independence. As the spirit of liberation and invention it can be expressed in a willingness to try new ideas, or as the actions of non-conformist individuals seeking change at any price. This impulse to pursue freedom is beneficial when it breaks down worn-out systems but it can also become destructive restlessness if it is practiced without responsibility and a sense of obligation to the whole. A great deal of global unrest has its roots in a frustrated ♁ wanting change. On the other hand, those opposed to change and defying ♁ are also causing disruption. In the US birth map this planet resides in the area describing both partnerships and enemies, suggesting that Americans must rate the independence of others as highly as they do for themselves.

As ♁ completed its first 84-year cycle, the Civil War began. Its second cycle started just before the dropping of the atomic bomb of 1945. By the end of the century it has made its waning trine to its natal position, an aspect described as the time of a "third birth" for this cycle, an opportunity to make the most important contribution to the world by puffing into practice all that has been learned since the dropping of the Bomb.

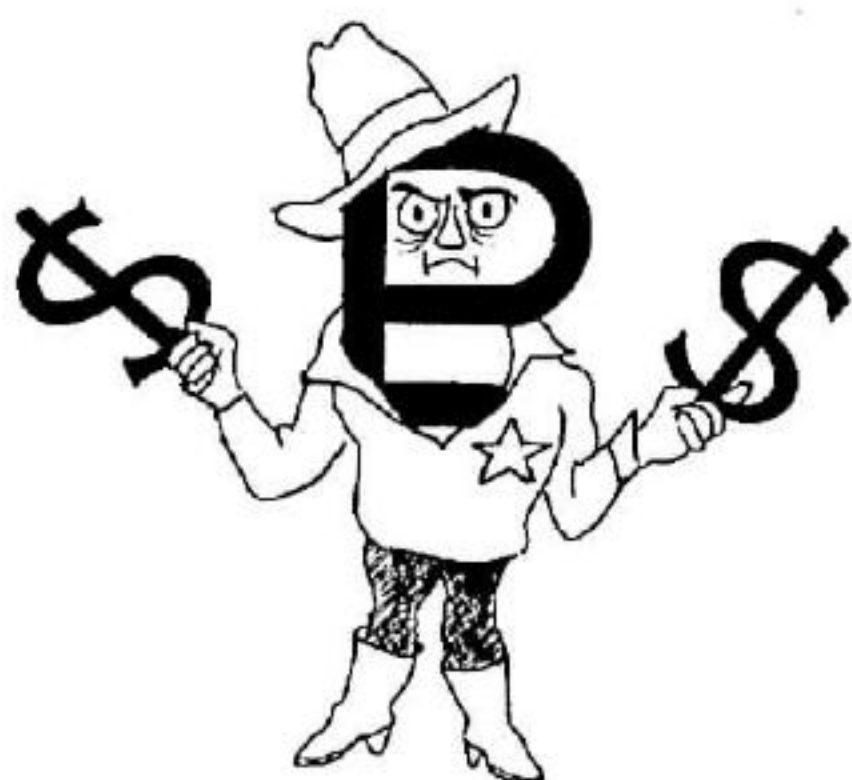
Ψ close to the Midheaven of the US chart and the ruler of its roots, shows that this intangible energy is a strong influence on the spiritual axis of the nation. It describes the metaphysical origins among the Founding Fathers and was manifested in the slogan "In God We Trust" on the Great Seal. Ironically, the high ideals of Ψ have become the weak point of the American psyche. In the constant search for perfection and divine meaning, it encourages a longing to escape earthly limitations often through denial or lies, or by seeking oblivion in drugs or drink. A desire to worship, with its Hollywood approach to stardom, the United States demands too much from its heroes and brings ultimate disillusion when they are seen as fallible instead of god-like. Ψ's position accounts for the self-deception and the dishonesty of those in power who try to please the audience with juggling acts rather than reveal the truth. By blocking the nation's unconscious search for

meaning in life the play-acting and self promotion of politicians becomes hypocritical and ignores the inevitable disappointments that come from having to deal with reality.

A new spiritual era was due to begin after ♀'s first cycle ended between 1939 and 1941 when the nation's direction was in doubt. Like a fog, ♀ first obscures the facts and weakens old structures before it sweeps them away. In 1997-98 leading up to the impeachment crisis it joined the US ♀, lifting the veil on the control of hidden powers that dominate the realm of resources and finance. Last time it met ♀ was around 1833, during a struggle against the power of banks that instigated a financial panic. This period was called the time of the "great divide" when Andrew Jackson was seen as a new kind of president backing the interests of the public against the elitism of the rich. Perhaps something similar is taking place now.

P is the newest planet of our time, seen for the first time in 1930. It is a metaphor for the splitting of the atom. Its function describes the dangerous energy of the present era with its extremes that can become fission or fusion, tearing apart or massing together. Such emotional intensity works on both personal and collective levels bringing us all face to face with temptation and the need to "just say no" to destructive obsessions. Its lessons are the most difficult and the most urgent right now with the complicated responses to its self-destructive drama. While it destroys what is decaying it makes room so that new seeds can be planted. In its many guises ♀ can be the economic vampires, the ethnic cleansers, polluters and pornographers sucking the life-blood out of healthy communities, or the protesters who get swept into violence and anger by mass emotion. Citizens and institutions need to assess their behavior to see how it could be damaging their own security as every action and reaction affects us all in our shrinking world. Painful though it is, the garbage has to be seen and sorted before we are ready to clean it out.

Since 1979 when it moved closest to the Earth in its 250-year cycle, then in 1984 into its own sign ♀, ♀'s effects have been dramatic, opening the doors of the closets so that old skeletons are visible and past mistakes are exhumed. It is not a good or bad energy but it is a powerful one that brings us face to face with any selfish undercurrents that lead to the choice of Mephistopheles, to sell or save our souls. Its attempts to corrupt may seem subtle but the outcome is extreme. As the Shadow of consciousness it forces a confrontation with the destructiveness of "black-or-white" thinking, and the danger of obsession when human passion goes too far.



The United States' P has special implications. What happens in this country, with its global power, can determine the future direction for humanity. Being in $\overline{\text{A}}$, the sign of materialism and control, financial power has become synonymous with self-worth that has invited the greed and possessiveness that has made the US the biggest consumer nation in the world. But $\overline{\text{A}}$ is also the karmic sign and is a reminder of the words of Thomas Jefferson

"I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just.... that his justice cannot sleep forever." That thought might be understood more clearly by 2021 when P finishes a 250-year cycle and makes its first return in the US chart. At present, as past scandals surface, it is energizing the American Ascendant showing the general condition of the nation, and testing its innate philosophy. A positive side of P energy is its power to heal. In its domain of business, government and natural resources, some practical reorganization to share material advantage on a spiritual level could fit the country's founding principles.

Opportunities

Like a great timetable, the cosmos describes the seasons that Earth is experiencing and the physical, emotional and intellectual changes in our environment. As the positions of the planets shift year by year, their patterns correlate with the changes in human nature, and history shows how we inhabitants are dealing with them.

Problems facing the most powerful nation on earth are how to value individual freedom for others (K); form an idealistic and compassionate leadership (Ψ); and break through the deadly grip of a financial underworld (P). Fortunately, these aims come with cosmic instructions and with generations equipped to understand and deal with them.

When slow planets meet to start a long cycle of growth there is opportunity for their energy to be realized on a new level and when they do so at the same degree as a planet in a birth chart its significance is maximized. For the United States, each of the three major energies have been sending out special messages loud and clear for anybody who recognizes the urgent need for improvements in our global village. A strange series of conjunctions have given broad hints that this country is supposed to be

in the vanguard of world evolution. In just over a century these three planets have paired off at the exact degrees of their positions in the US birth chart, making the last forty years particularly important. The planetary combinations are not good or bad in themselves and reactions to them are never simple. Whether in individual lives or the character of a nation it takes time and experience to benefit from their impact and use their energies positively rather than negatively.

- In 1892 ♀ and ♁ met at the exact position of the US ♀, to begin a 450-year cycle for redefining independence.
- In 1964-66, ♀ and ♁ met at the exact position of the US ♀, starting a cycle that lasts between 115 and 127 years challenging ethics and morality.
- In 1993 ♀ and ♀ met at the ☉/☿, midpoint of new thinking, before joining the US ♁ for a cycle of 172 years with an emphasis on changing (♀) morality (♀) by exposing the dirt (♁). In this case it symbolizes the hypocrisy, deception and any misuse of economic and governmental power.
- Since 1997 ♁ has moved over the US Ascendant for the first time in its history, starting a 250-year cycle. This is a decisive opportunity for the American Dream to be killed or cleansed through an outpouring of any poisons and toxins (♁) that are threatening the system.

As an extra hint, in 1966 ♄ and the asteroid ♂ kicked off their 147-year cycle in exact opposition to the US ♀, ready to challenge those ethics (♀) and strengthen faith in government (♄) by forgiving old mistakes (♄) and reviving a practical idealism.

Translating these exceptional coincidences into events requires a review of the turbulence of the sixties and the obsessions of the nineties. The main restructuring for a ♁ lesson began after Hiroshima and World War 2 when the Baby Boomers, of the late forties, were born with ♄ and ♁ in ♋. This dynamic combination aligns exceptional power with large egos and these souls now taking over are here to restructure (♄) the leadership qualities of ♋ by removing the decay (♁) of former dictatorships. In other words, they are capable of cleaning out corruption of unseen manipulators, but only after they themselves have passed the tests that began in the sixties.

Presidents

As ♀ disturbs the status quo, ♀ confuses, and ♁ digs deeper, it is enlightening to see how the last seven elected presidents have affected progress. Each was a different kind of agent in the turmoil of

global change. When the birth chart of a president is overlaid on to the US chart, and positions of certain planets coincide, then it seems likely that his influence will relate to those planets. Circumstances surrounding his tenure will trigger their energies in the national soul. A president's role on the national stage may then be seen objectively as having an effect far greater than his own personality or policies. Recent presidents have left behind enduring legacies that have changed the US psyche in subtle, or not so subtle, ways.

Awakening to new consciousness accelerated in the sixties causing social turbulence everywhere, with the US leading the way. From 1960 transiting ♀ was urging the US ♂, towards expressing individuality. This brought the spirit of revolution to the surface so that the meaning of liberty could be seen in a modern setting.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy with his ♀ ☉ beside the US ♂, was the bright young hero with new ideas that added fuel to the national sense of independence and civil rights. His own ♂ was on the US ♀, stirring up an emotional interest in space exploration, and he became a catalyst for a new bid for freedom and an upsurge of youthful rebellion. But with his ♀ opposing the US ♀ tension was generated between his own ego and the stranglehold of hidden power. Now the background stories of his behavior have surfaced it seems that he was trapped in an

unhealthy alliance between his father and organized crime and lost his authority through his own disruptive actions.

That **Lyndon Baines Johnson** did not get along well with Kennedy is not surprising since his own ♀ ☉ and ♀, describing his habit of analyzing and criticizing, challenged Kennedy's ☉, as well as the US ♂. Petty reactions and a refusal to listen to protesters damaged that very freedom the public was expecting after Kennedy's time. In the turbulent sixties, as ♂ and ♀ met over the US ♀, rebellious youths were causing chaos in an outpouring of protests. Sadly, many were caught up by their own self-deceptions and got lost in drugs and violence. Johnson's ♂ opposed the US ☉, breaking through old racial bafflers, but upsetting national self-confidence by escalating war in Vietnam through confusion of differing opinions between Congress and the military. Whatever Johnson's triumphs and mistakes his role was to provoke new thinking and discrimination.



Richard Nixon's leadership revealed a lesson about Ψ as well as seeding useful investigations into the workings of $\mathbb{P}$. He was elected with $\mathbb{P}$ transiting the US Midheaven, ready to reveal any misuse of presi-



dential power. By 1974 $\mathbb{K}$ was challenging the US $\mathbb{P}$ in a waning square, and Ψ was around the US Ascendant starting a new 165-year cycle in confusing circumstances. Nixon's personal ego, the $\odot/\mathfrak{h}$ midpoint, coincided with the American Ψ , and inclined him to indulge in deception that would result in disappointments. And his Ψ on the US $\mathfrak{f}$, widely opposing its $\mathbb{P}$, confused the media before encouraging them to uncover the lies and expose unseen power lines in the executive branch. A

point of hubris, his $\mathbb{K}/\Psi$, conflicted with $\mathbb{P}$'s hidden compulsions (Deep Throat?). During his time financial corruption expanded under a surface of respectability. But his downhill opened the way for new suspicions and new criticisms of a leader, which would come back to haunt the public when Bill Clinton was president. They both lied but their motives were different. One built up personal control and the other was controlled by the need for money. Neither was completely free to do things the way he chose but, in their own way, both were attempting to serve.

Jimmy Carter's term activated $\mathbb{P}$. While his $\mathbb{P}$ was on the US $\odot$, undermining confidence and digging up false expectations for economic security, transiting $\mathbb{P}$ was moving over the US $\mathfrak{h}$, bringing lessons in legal and government domination. It was a time of opportunity to turn corners, with $\Psi \square \Psi$ and $\mathbb{P} \square \mathbb{P}$. The power of oil was having a dramatic effect on the economy, and Carter introduced a comprehensive energy program but it did not last. As a $\simeq$ he encouraged Arab-Israeli negotiation with his Camp David Peace Accord and made efforts to understand China. But on a less visible level new kinds of control over the presidency were being established with the increase of consultants and polls. Hundreds of lobbyists, so-called experts and political staffers joined Congress to push personal agendas without regard to their role as public servants. Hidden manipulation defeated Carter when Iran refused to release American prisoners until after Election Day, showing the kind of underground power that $\mathbb{P}$ represents.



Ronald Reagan brought another chapter of $\mathbb{P}$'s exorcism to the surface when activities in the basement of the White House were exposed. As a strong-willed Aquarian, with his $\mathbb{K}$ on the US $\mathbb{P}$, he was an agent of controversy, able to joke his own way through difficulties while generating suspicions about the use of power. By 1984 $\mathbb{K}$ was opposite itself,



halfway in the cycle begun towards the end of WW2 and, like any mid-life crisis, this was a restless time. While $\mathbb{K}$ was arriving at the US Ascendant, his "Morning in America" slogan was appropriate, but transiting Ψ still squaring Ψ slowed down the will to wake up. The public was reluctant to criticize him. After calling the USSR the "evil empire", and using an enemy as an excuse to order expensive armaments, he came to terms with Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet

General-Secretary, and chose friendship over a cold war. The financial structures that were deteriorating in Carter's time now developed into full-blown scandals over the corruption of Savings and Loans and the trading of drugs for arms in the Iran Contra deals. A "culture of mistrust" developed during his presidency discouraging others from seeking public office.

George Bush's era emphasized Ψ and interests in oil. With his $\mathbb{K}$ opposing it and his $\mathbb{II}$ ambivalence, he was fooled in efforts to cooperate with Saddam Hussein and the Sheiks. At that time $\mathfrak{h}$ and Ψ were together opposing the US $\odot$ and the gamble over Iraq, intended to protect oil supplies, has had long-term effect on national confidence. The vision of his generation, with its Ψ in $\mathcal{Q}$, was losing its usefulness, wasting energy on idle dreams.



Bill Clinton, a $\mathcal{Q}$, arrived on stage for Act 2 Scene I, when all three planets were activating the US chart and a brand new generation was taking over. As the first presidential candidate among the Boomers, William Jefferson Clinton let down his middle name by accepting a trade-off with the "bad guys" in his need for funding. With his sensitive $\mathbb{D}/\Psi$ midpoint on the US $\mathbb{P}$ his genuine ability to "feel the pain" would lead into its underworld and cause some emotional trauma both for him and the country. In spite of idealistic wishes to change the system, and his generation had many, Clinton was not strong enough to stand up against existing forces. The



obsession with sex and drugs of many Boomers can be a Ψ escape from the reality of their own failings and compulsive desire for power.

In the last half of this century, first $\aleph$ then Ψ met the US $\mathbb{P}$ and transiting $\mathbb{P}$ arrived at the US Ascendant ready to clean out any decay and conspiracies obstructing the nation's soul purpose. When power is secretive $\mathbb{P}$'s urge towards "death and resurrection" entails its exposure, which is painful but necessary. Fortunately, with its $\aleph$ Ascendant this is an optimistic country. So the spirit of Hope left in the genii's bottle could restore the high standards of its founders, eventually freeing the nation from hypocrisy (Ψ) and hidden control ($\mathbb{P}$). The next election may show how many of the forties' heavyweights and the sixties' idealists are willing to stand up and be counted.

The young man from Arkansas was only the last of a long line of presidents who misused their position by allowing themselves to be manipulated by faceless power-mongers. But Clinton could be the beginning of the end if the intrepid investigators who have spent so much energy on chasing sexual peccadilloes now look at the mob-like grip of unethical lobbyists, financiers, lawyers or politicians and the criminal use of "dirty money".

It is the economy, stupid!



Teaching the Essence of Person-Centered Astrology

ANDREW PATTERSON

THE EXPERIENCE of every teacher of astrology is that students find the subject difficult to learn. Part of the reason for this is the sheer volume of material that has to be covered, although as pointed out in a previous article¹, a lot of the fault lies in the way in which the material is presented in the astrological literature. Another factor is that the central symbolism of each component of the chart can give rise to a huge number of manifestations in the real world. In Jeff Mayo's *The Planets and Human Behaviour*, there are listed not just associations with the planets, but whole classes of associations with the planets.² Apart from myths and deities, drawn from a multiplicity of traditions, there are inanimate objects, physical processes, abstract concepts, and events. There are colors and qualities, forms and flavours. There are plants, trees and animals, rocks and stones, metals and minerals. And for human beings, there are masses of personality traits, archetypal processes and vocations, to say nothing of endocrine glands, anatomy, physiology and disease. And that is just the planets.

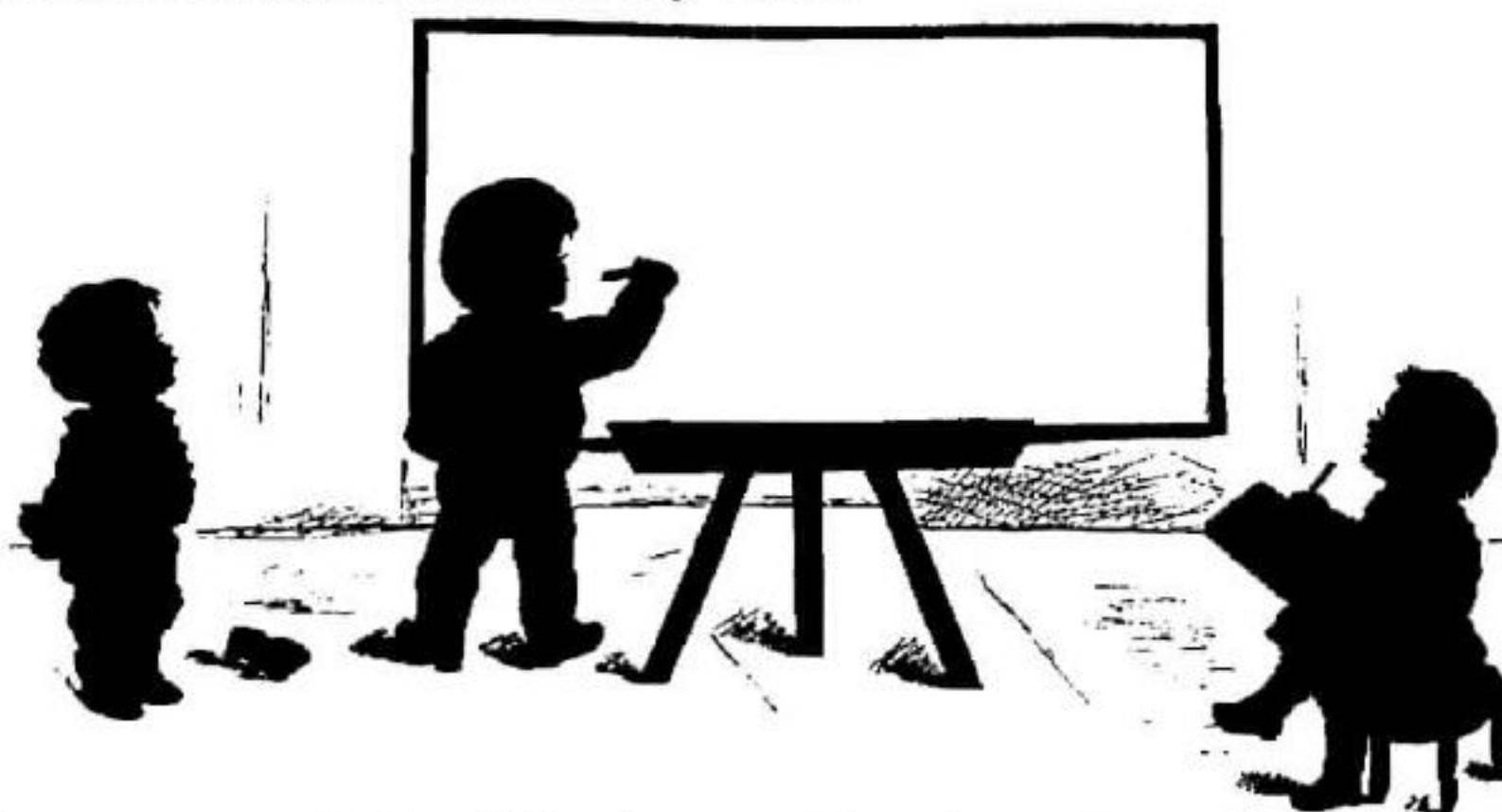
As if this were not enough, students also have great difficulty distinguishing between (a) the different purposes to which astrology is put and (b) different styles of interpretation. We cast charts not only for the birth of human beings, but the inception of anything; we cast charts for events in order to gain insight into their true nature; we cast charts in order to forecast political events and economic trends; we endeavor to find the propitious time for a planned event; we use charts as a means of interrogating the Cosmos. And as for style, we may see the planets as harbingers of fate, as descriptive of human personality, as indicators of character, as symbolic of the persons and influences contributing to an event, or with the special meanings attached to them in the horary tradition.

In teaching astrology, the group I am a part of has made a special effort to simplify the subject. We have felt it important to avoid the mental indigestion that inevitably afflicts a student when faced with astrology in all its complexity. We endeavour to clear up confusion, made

¹ 'Why is Astrology So Hard to Learn?' *Considerations* Vol. VI No. 3, p.5, 1991.

² 'Can the Horoscope Predict Events?' *Considerations* Vol. XIII No. 2, p.3, 1998.

worse by the habit of so many students of flitting from one teacher to another, from one school to another. Our experience is that their minds become filled with so much clutter that when asked to venture an interpretation of anything in a chart, they can produce hardly anything that is coherent or intelligible. Usually, they trot out the only thing they can remember, quite irrespective of whether it is true or false, general or particular, valuable or nonsensical. In our astrology center, we do not offer elementary courses for beginners. Instead, we specialise in courses in person-centered astrology as an add-on to work that students have already done elsewhere. Sad to say, the only features these walking wounded have in common — apart from bewilderment — are an inability to produce a chart interpretation of any value, and an inability to conduct a consultation session of any value.



Our process of simplification contains three steps. The first is that we leave aside all astrology that is non-personal, that is, we are interested only in astrology based on the birth chart of a human being. The second is that of all the kinds of astrology that are applied to birth charts, the one we focus on is *person-centered astrology*, about which more in a moment. The third step — most important of the three — is that we have reduced the mass of associations that could be made with each of the component parts of a birth chart to a very few. These are what we believe to be the most essential, the most crucial, and the most central ideas in each case. The phraseology used is similar to the key words that were popular in British astrology in the 1950s, but is not as terse, not as economical, and hence easier to understand.³

We have not lost sight of the fact that there can be a large number of manifestations of the symbolism of each component of a chart.⁴ What we

³ See, for example, *Astrology* by Jeff Mayo (Teach Yourself Books) and *The Modern Textbook of Astrology* by Margaret Hone (Fowler).

⁴ To get the flavour of just how complex this can become, see the diagram on p. 41 of 'Towards a Better Astrology' in *Considerations* Vol. VII No. 1, 1992.

have tried to do is find a small number of ideas from which the greater mass can be seen to derive, a small number of general concepts of which the multitude are particular cases. The phrases are alive: we make small and sometimes not-so-small alterations to them all the time. We do not argue that our particular phrases are the last word on the subject. They are drawn from our own experiences of life and of astrology. Other people might therefore have compiled phrases that differ from ours to a greater or lesser extent. This is quite legitimate, as we all attach slightly different meanings to words, and particularly different overtones of meaning.

To the Planets, Houses and Signs, then, we have attached groups of phrases. These groups are given labels consisting of quite common words distinguished by the use of capital letters.⁵ The labels are an effort to make the associations easier to remember, because what we insist on is that our students memorise them. In this, we have been accused of dogmatism, of being too mechanical, of trying to reduce everything to a set of formulae. This, we are told, inevitably leads to loss of flexibility in interpretation, of shackling the creative spirit of astrology. This is not the place to enter into a discussion of whether or not craft stifles art, but too often we notice that those who insist most loudly on freedom of expression are the same individuals who have never learned their trade properly. There is plenty of flexibility in our approach. It does not lie in an anything-goes approach to interpretation, but rather in the breathtaking variety of ways in which a human being can express the central symbolism of a formation in the chart.

Person-Centered Astrology has also been called *humanistic astrology* and *psychological astrology*. When referring to our own work we prefer to avoid both of these terms. In the first place, 'humanistic' suggests some sort of connection with the philosophy called humanism, which is entirely inimical in spirit with the ideas of person-centered astrology. Recall that it was in the *Humanist* magazine⁶ that the infamous statement by 186 scientists denouncing astrology was published. Regarding the term 'psychological', it is associated in many people's minds with the extremes of behaviorism, with the faint scuffle of rats running in mazes. On the other hand, psychological astrology often refers purely to the applications of Jungianism to astrology, and we do not mean that either.

⁵ Inspired by the amusing tags of the Transactional Analysis school of psychiatry. See for instance *Games People Play* by Eric Berne (Grove Press).

⁶ In the issue of September 1975.

Dane Rudhyar coined the term *person-centered astrology* in his groundbreaking book of the same name published in 1972.⁷ The main contributors to this point of view in the later literature have been Richard Idemon, Zipporah Dobyns, Steven Arroyo, to some extent Robert Hand, and most recently, Glenn Perry. The last-named has produced some significant essays on the nature and practice of person-centered astrology; an example of one that is readily accessible was published in *The Mountain Astrologer* in 1998.⁸

If we look for common features in the work of person-centered astrologers, the one central idea is that the birth chart gives information about some of the contents of the human psyche. (By this term we mean the conscious and unconscious minds taken together.) They are deeply concerned with what the *perceptions* of an individual are, with what his or her subjective experience of life is. And this subjective view is not just of life in general terms, but what sort of persons they are themselves, what the nature of the surrounding world is, and how other people are disposed towards them and affect them. They are not much concerned with objective reality, although they do not deny that it exists. They do not set out to produce descriptions of a person's appearance or personality or character from the chart, and in general, they avoid labeling. Neither do they aim to predict the events of an individual's life, either in the long term or the short term, even though they embrace the principle that character is fate. They especially shun predictions of what will happen to a person, how things will turn out, or the good and bad times for doing things. Neither are they primarily interested in forecasting what a person will do in a given set of circumstances.

So much for person-centered astrology in general. Now to an outline of the main features of this subject as it is taught in our school. We do not pretend that it is distillation of what person-centered astrologers are agreed upon, because it is not. We do not defend the material set down here in the sense that it has been subjected to careful testing: it has not. Much of it is intuitive, and a lot of it is based on experience. Our students find it easy to grasp, and in the counseling and consultation situation it works wonderfully well. This, in common-sense terms, is its justification. We begin with some important assumptions.

Assumption No 1: We assume that what is symbolized by the birth chart are concepts such as attitudes, outlooks, beliefs, expectations, perceptions, motivations and mind sets. Some of these, particularly motivations, are present at birth, but all are grown into later as life unfolds.

⁷ *Person Centered Astrology* by Dane Rudhyar (Lakemont).

⁸ 'Psychological versus Predictive Astrology', *Mountain Astrologer*, Feb/Mar 1998.

Assumption No 2: All of us live with a collection of perceptions about the nature of ourselves, of other people, of the world and of life in general. These are just as important as objective reality. For instance, if you perceive your father as harsh and tyrannical, he might just as well be harsh and tyrannical, even though others may not see him that way.

Assumption No 3: At least some of the events of our lives, our activities, the people we meet, the things that befall us, our successes and failures, are brought about by our attitudes, beliefs, mind sets, and so on. The link is fuzzy: it is not clear precisely what will happen. Furthermore, when it will happen is only predictable in rough terms. Indeed, it may not visibly happen at all. Also, a statement that some would regard as astrological heresy, there are many events of our lives that cannot be traced back to any formations in either the birth chart or any derived chart, that is, charts drawn up for the unfolding of life through progressions, transits and the like.

Assumption No 4: The central meanings of the component parts of the birth chart (and derived charts) can be expressed in many ways. Some of these will be characteristic of the highest and best; they will be productive, positive, and in our best interests. Others may be counter-productive or negative, confirming the common observation that we are our own worst enemies. We assume, then, that if we are sufficiently aware of our own natures, we can make conscious choices about the way we express our charts. It follows that we are able to grow by understanding the consequences of our choices and taking responsibility for them. In so doing we are able to meet life halfway, and not just exist as supine victims of life's vicissitudes, battered about by a malign fate.

Given all this, what would the Planets stand for? We suggest that it is useful and fruitful to think of them as a set of motivations. They can be described variously as desires or wants or urges or drives. What we call them is our **Needs**.⁹ Every person born on this Earth will have the same set of Planets in his or her birth chart. This means that whatever our race or nation, colour or creed, we all have the identical set of Needs.

The way we all differ is in how we go about meeting our Needs. Precisely how we do this will depend on what opportunities are available to us in our lives, and what obstacles stand in our way. There are three classes of obstacle. For one thing, the circumstances of your life may restrict your choices, blocking off many avenues to fulfilment of a Need.

⁹ Some person-centered astrologers connect needs with Signs of the zodiac rather than the Planets, in which case the Planets become aids to the fulfilment of those needs. To us, this is not convincing. The converse seems to fit better, namely, that the Planets are Needs, and the Signs ways of fulfilling them.

You may be mentally or physically handicapped, you may be born to poverty, you may lack opportunity, you may have been born in the wrong country or of the wrong parents. Secondly, other Needs in the birth chart itself may stand in the way of a Need that is trying to find expression. You will experience this as a feeling that you are not capable, or lacking in skills or resources, or being unworthy, or that fate is against you, perhaps. Then thirdly, a major cause of frustrated Needs is the opinions and attitudes of other people. They may convince us that what we want is wrong or undesirable, contrary to divine scripture, against their own wishes, not socially acceptable, or simply not fashionable. It turns out that it is whenever we run into obstacles in trying to fulfil our Needs we tend to make choices about the ways we express them that are less than optimal.

Every Need is accompanied by an emotion that prods or pushes or propels us into taking actions that will fulfil the Need. It is well known that we will only do something when we feel strongly enough about it. And so it is with Needs. Again, we may debate the precise name we give to each of these driving emotions, but for simplicity we call them the **Feelings**. There is a one-to-one correspondence between Needs and Feelings: for one Need there is one and only one Feeling, and for every Feeling there is only one Need.

Whether we are consciously aware of the Needs and Feelings or not, we human beings are stimulated by them into taking actions that have the potential of fulfilling the Needs. These actions we call the **Responses**. In a moment, we shall be looking at examples of Responses for some of the Planets. Again, the precise phrases chosen are not cast in concrete, but have served us well.

The Responses we as individuals show to planetary Needs and Feelings depend in part on the society in which we find ourselves. To illustrate this idea, take the Need of the ☉. This Planet represents a desire for something like status. But what constitutes status depends very much on whether you are a corporate lawyer in Los Angeles, a Buddhist monk in Tibet, a headhunter in Borneo or a member of a street gang in New York. However, since we are catering for the inhabitants of so-called First World societies, our phrases will reflect this point of view.

Responses in turn give rise to **Expressions**. For the population as a whole, there are very many possible Expressions for one set of Responses, but a given individual generally exhibits only a few, and repeats them as time goes by. The counseling astrologer, by suitable discussion, can establish how the client is expressing the Responses of a given Planet. Whatever form they may take, all Expressions can be related symbolically to one or more of the Responses. What this means is that a relatively small number of Responses can be found for each Planet that covers all of the observed Expressions. We have found that that number

is three. A given person, at a given point in time, does not necessarily exhibit all three Responses. Furthermore, Expressions take several forms. They may come out as an emotion, or be physical or mental. They may also be purely internal, in a way that is not perceptible to others at all. Expressions can be classified too as active, passive and defensive, but so much arises out of this that it is better left for another occasion. Perhaps just one more point, concerning an important difference between Responses and Expressions, could be made. In whatever way they may be expressed by an individual; the Responses to a given Planet are always there, always the same, and so essentially predictable. The Expressions, however, are essentially unpredictable. The only way the astrologer can discover how the native is expressing Responses is by finding out by question and answer.

And although they are not of primary importance, it is possible also to associate with the Planets a set of what we simply call **Fears**. These seem to lie behind Needs and Feelings and Responses, to be more fundamental than they are. In the case of the ☉, we appear to have a Fear that others may regard us as nonentities, of no importance in our society. It is easy to see how this could underpin the Need of the ☉ and hence account for its Responses.

The Planets

Now let's explore some Fears, Needs, Feelings and Responses in more detail. To avoid tedium, we will not set out all of the phrases we have assembled for all of the Planets. Instead, we will present only a sample of them, beginning with the ☉.¹⁰

The ☉ causes us to be afraid that others may see us as a loser, a person who amounts to nothing. So the ☉ *Fear is being a Nobody*. It follows that this Planet is connected with a desire to be important, to attract respect, to have status, to be a somebody. In other words, *the ☉ Need is for Self-Esteem*. As for the emotion that drives us towards fulfilling the ☉'s Need, there is no doubt that this is pride; pride in who we are, pride in what we have achieved, the pride promised in what we may become. And so, the ☉ *Feeling is Pride*.

How do we respond to this Fear and Need and Feeling of the ☉? What activities do we undertake in order to bring about fulfilment of the ☉'s Need? One Response is certainly connected with having status, that is, what your society regards as status. In one socio-economic group, this would be related to what we own: the right home at the right address, driving the right cars (more than one), sending the kids to the right

¹⁰ Readers who would like to study the entire set should contact the Editor, who will arrange to have a copy forwarded by the author.

schools, and having all of the other material trappings of success. In another society, it might be a hut located close to that of the chief, or a bigger collection of hunted heads. Another Response must be associated not so much with what we own but with what we have done, what we have achieved. In one society this would be success at school and college, having made it in the chosen business or profession. In another, it could be being the wise man, the personification of the tribal tradition, or being the best hunter. Whatever the precise expression, it amounts to having both the formal and informal recognition of associates and colleagues. Thirdly, there is the question of the things that are important to you, meeting your own goals. Our pride is not exclusively invested in others' opinions of ourselves, and we may measure our own self-worth in many terms that society would consider of no merit at all. You may value punctuality, for instance, or invest pride in what is deprecatingly called old-fashioned courtesy, but they are important to you. So in summary, the ☉ Responses are seeking status and recognition, striving for achievement, meeting your own goals.

We can go through similar exercises for the other Planets. Take ♀. We say that the ♀ Fear is of Being Isolated, of loneliness, or being alone, of not knowing what is going on. The ♀ Need is for Awareness, of being in touch not only with other people, but also with sources of information that make both for entertainment and for survival. The emotion that drives the ♀ Responses is something akin to curiosity or inquisitiveness, but we prefer to use the more neutral word interest. Thus, the ♀ Feeling is Interest. The ♀ Responses are receiving information; thinking and forming opinions; communicating.

There are some points touching ♀ that must be stressed. One is that when we are using our ♀s we are receiving information not just through the eyes and ears, but through *all* the senses. This includes touch, taste, smell, and those signals that we are not even conscious of. In the same way, when we communicate it is not just in speech and writing, but also through a myriad of subtle facial signals, physical messages that our bodies send out unbeknown to us, and the worse betrayer of all, body language. ♀ is also a Planet of supreme importance in counseling astrology, because it is the main channel through which we convey to another person how we are handling the Needs of all of the Planets.

The ♂ Fear is of Being Helpless, of lacking the strength to assert yourself, to defend yourself, to get things done by your own efforts. His Need is for Strength. The emotion that drives ♂ is the Feeling of Assertiveness, which spills over into aggressiveness if the assertion is somehow blocked. Hence the ♂ Responses are asserting yourself; being competitive; expending energy. In other words, getting your own way, getting there first, and getting things done.

The ♃ *Need is for Management*. Some will say it is for control, but that word suggests power games that are much more akin to ♄. The management we are speaking of here is of the practical affairs of life. The ♃ *Feeling is Caution*. Whatever he touches in the chart is an area where we fear or suspect that things are not in order, that they need attention. We have grave doubts about them, we feel that they may reflect badly on ourselves, and we may even doubt our ability to set them to rights. So the ♃ *Fear is of Disorder*. And the ♃ *Responses are showing responsibility; exercising self-discipline; imposing order*.

The ♆ *Fear is that Reality is All There Is*. So the ♆ *Need is for Transcendence*, and this word is meant to convey the idea of rising above and beyond the sordid affairs of the real world. A feeling that is commonly associated with ♆ is what has been called 'divine discontent'. There is a longing to reach out for another world of perfection and peace, of freedom from fear and pain. So we can say the ♆ *Feeling is Yearning*. The ♆ *Responses are escapism, renunciation and compassion*. The first of these may be done in relatively harmless ways, but escape from the real world can also be achieved through drink and drugs, so often associated with this Planet. Renunciation is another face of escapism; you may renounce the world by devoting yourself to life in a monastery, or simply refuse to compete in all those arenas where your ☉ is trying to find status and recognition. Compassion for the weak, unfortunate and helpless is a laudable thing, but note also that it can spill over into martyrdom.

We can say then, that the Planets have four **Properties**, the Fear, the Need, the Feeling and the Responses. And in each case we can put down three Responses. We now turn to the Houses.

The Houses

Our view of the Houses in the birth chart is relatively conventional: we take them to represent departments of life activities. They are stages on which the Needs of the Planets are acted out, but they are specialised stages, because the Needs of the Planets apply to the whole of life, not just those departments symbolized by the Houses in which they lie. The ☉, for instance, motivates us towards achievement, status and recognition in general, but the House in which he falls evokes in us an especial desire to succeed in the part of life described by that House. If that House is the Fourth, there is a particular Need for fulfilment in matters related to the home, family and nation.

Our experience is that when a Planet occupies a House in the natal chart, what the native is most aware of is not the Fear or Need of the Planet, but its Feeling. In the case of the ☉, that Feeling is pride, of course, and so the person with ☉ in the Fourth House experiences pride in Fourth House affairs: home, family, nation. People with ♀ in the

Third House are aware of that Feeling of interest, this time in knowledge and information. If ♃ is in the Second House, one feels cautious about money matters and the husbanding of resources and material possessions. The important point is that it is the Feeling of a Planet that a person is most conscious of. Certainly the Fear will be there, less consciously, and so will the Need. And the Responses will be acted out with particular reference to the affairs of the House. But the Feeling is what is paramount.

When it comes to teaching what the Houses stand for, we have adopted much the same technique as used in connection with the Planets. On the one hand there are tags that are easy to remember: on the other there are sets of short phrases that summarise the main associations with the Houses. As in the case of the phrases coined for the Responses of the Planets, those for the Houses have been pondered over at great length and with great care. We believe that what we have arrived at capture the central ideas, although, again, they are not immutable laws.

Every House is assigned a **Label**, and has a set of **Associations**. The former is a quick reminder of what the House deals with, and the latter elaborate on this. As an example, the Label of the Seventh House is *Close Personal Relationships*, or *CPRs* for short. The Associations are *partners*, *important others*, and *sub-contractors*. They are almost entirely conventional, as can be seen. Important others refer to people who play significant roles in our lives, for good or ill, and include the traditional Association of open enemies. By sub-contractors is meant persons whom we employ — often without their knowledge or agreement — to express Planets we are not expressing ourselves.

Let's run through our Labels and Associations for some of the other Houses. The Label of the First House is *Me*, and its Associations are *my body*, *my personal appearance*, and *my personality*. Notice that the traditional reference to 'beginnings', or something of the sort, is omitted, because of the nature of person-centered astrology. For the Third House, the Label is *My Knowledge*, and the associations are anything to do with *learning*, *my teaching* activities, informal and otherwise, and *my opinions*. For the Fourth House we have *My Roots* as the Label, and *my family*, *my home* and *my cultural heritage* as the Associations.

With the Ninth House we leave behind other people as individuals, and begin to deal with society as a whole. This House covers the collective wisdom of society, and its Associations are the *laws*, *customs* and *politics* of society. Not just our own, but other societies as well, which explains the desire of strongly Ninth House people to travel. To sum up these Associations, we apply the Label *Society's Rules*, since laws, customs and politics are the glue that hold society together and help it to function as a unit.

With the Tenth House, we look at a different facet of society, in this case viewing it as an entity consisting of ranks, classes, strata or socio-economic layers. The essential feature is that some individuals and some groups are considered to be higher (and lower) in the scheme of things than others. So the Label of this House is *Stratified Society*, and its Associations are *position*, *superiors*, and *class relationships*. An important example of the stratified society is the corporate environment, but there are others. Inevitably, ambition has a lot to do with the Tenth House.

Lastly, the Twelfth House, which has the Label *The Inner World*. There have been many wry jokes about what precisely this House stands for, but our feeling is that it represents anything connected with the process of introspection. This can mean just privacy, being alone with one's thoughts. It also means dreaming, daydreaming, more formal introspection such as meditation, and things like spontaneous visions. Yet there is an irony here, for when we collapse our worlds inwards we simultaneously open them up to information from both the personal and the collective unconscious, and so in a sense expand our minds to fill the entire universe. To sum up, the Associations of the Twelfth House are *privacy*, *introspection* and *the unconscious mind*.

One further point: what is important about the Associations is not their existence as separate entities, but what our attitudes are towards them. It is our perceptions of them, not what they may do to us as external factors, that count. For instance, the money that is associated with the Second House is treated in traditional astrology as something that just happens to us, that we are fated to have or not to have as the case may be. But the person-centered approach asserts that a Planet in the Second House is indicative of our expectations regarding money, and this has nothing to do with how much of it we have.

The Signs

For the Planets, then, we have devised a set of Properties, embracing Fears and Needs and Feelings and Responses, and for the Houses a collection of Labels and Associations. For the Signs, we have assembled a set of **Profiles**. These too consist of phrases that encapsulate the main features of each of the Signs. In the same way as with the other chart components we have been discussing, these phrases have been carefully selected so as to present what appear to be the essential or central ideas, from which all others could be drawn as special cases. The matters referred to by the sets of phrases we call the **Issues** of a Sign, and it does seem that the minimum number that fits the Signs well is five: each Profile therefore consists of five Issues. In some respects, Issues are like Responses. For one thing, they can be expressed in a multiplicity of ways. When meeting a person for the first time, it

would not be possible to state precisely how he or she is expressing a Sign, although modes of expression, once chosen, may persist for many years. Not all of the Issues of a Sign necessarily show themselves at any one time, and the Expressions, as with Responses, may be emotional or mental or physical or even entirely internal.

How is a Planet in a Sign to be interpreted? We will answer this question in a moment, but first why not look at the list given below of some of the Sign Profiles that we are using at present? You may think that the phrases you see are quite common associations with the Signs and have merely been cobbled together. But look a little more closely and you will see that they relate to what I have referred to elsewhere as the Ingredients of the Signs.¹¹ This term describes the components that can be regarded as making up a Sign, namely, the Ruler, the Element, the Quality (or modality), and the corresponding House. Take the case of ♈. The phrases 'taking the initiative', 'being competitive' and 'being energetic' clearly relate to the Ruler, ☿. 'Being decisive' derives from the cardinality of the Sign, and 'being self-centered' comes not only from the Fire Element of this Sign, but also from the First House connotation. The Profiles of the other Signs are made up in a similar way. Here is a selection of them.

♈: taking the initiative, being competitive, being energetic, being decisive, and being self-centered.

♊: being enquiring, being knowledgeable, being communicative, being flexible, and being changeable.

♊: being correct, being health-conscious, offering service, being efficient, and paying attention to detail.

♊: controlling yourself, being intense, being defensive, being thorough, and being fixed.

♊: taking responsibility, practising good management, being ambitious, avoiding sentimentality; and exercising authority.

♊: being unique, being rebellious, sharing a brotherhood, identifying with intellectualism, and promoting social theory.

Now to interpretation: Suppose that a Planet lies in the Sign ♈. In conventional astrology, we might say that the Planet expresses itself conservatively, possessively, materialistically, with practicality, and so on. It would actually be better to say that *you* express the Planet in those ways. We go even farther in our version of person-centered astrology, and assert that these are the ways in which you *would like to* express the Planet. The implication is that you do not always succeed in doing so in

¹¹ 'Putting it Together by Taking it Apart'. *Considerations* Vol. IX No. 1 p.15.

a way that is satisfactory, and this is precisely what we wish to convey. Earlier, when speaking about planetary Needs and why they are sometimes unfulfilled, I mentioned some of the reasons why this happens. The same considerations apply here. This explains an observation commonly made by astrologers, namely, that a person appears not to be expressing a Planet in the manner of the Sign it is in. And indeed, at the time of writing, we are dealing with a young woman with four major personal Planets in T who, possibly because of parental suppression as a child, possibly because she is sub-contracting all those Planets (they are in her Seventh House) is apparently not expressing that T at all.

What this implies is that the Issues that make up the Profile of a Sign constitute a specification of how you would like to express any Planet that falls in that Sign. The Profile spells out the style you would want to put on your Responses. Now let's go one stage further. We propose not only that you would like express each Planet in accordance with the Profile of the Sign it is in, but that you *must do so* in order to feel that the Need of that Planet has been fulfilled. The Sign represents a set of criteria that must be satisfied if you are to feel that your expression of a Planet is authentic, and valid, and genuine and right *for you*. It follows that if your expression of the Planet is made difficult by life's circumstances, by your own internal conflicts, or by the demands of other people, you may not make the best possible choice of expression. As a result, you may at best feel unfulfilled, frustrated and unhappy. At worst — and how common this is — you may be neurotic, or emotionally disturbed, or suffer from a full-blown personality disorder.

The Aspects and Beyond

To interpret Aspects along the lines we have been pursuing, we do not need to add any further names or phrases to those we have already drawn up and coined. We can interpret Aspects quite satisfactorily using no more than the kit of parts we have already assembled.

We urge our students to get into the habit of interpreting Aspects by looking at them in both directions, as it were. That is, if we wish to interpret an Aspect between any two Planets A and B, we begin by considering the effect of Planet B on Planet A, and then reverse our point of view to consider the effect of Planet A on Planet B. This flies in the face of conventional astrology, in which Aspects are interpreted by taking Planets in pairs, two at a time, and delineating their combined effect. We believe the two-way treatment is better. For one thing, when Planets are dealt with in pairs, there is a tendency to get bogged down by interpreting the effect of only one Planet on the other, particularly that of the outer Planet on the inner one. In this way, the perhaps equally important action in the reverse direction gets left out. Secondly, the two-way ap-

proach fits in well with our general method of interpreting a Planet and all that is associated with it, as we will see in a moment.

Now it might be thought that when considering the effect of a Planet B on a Planet A in an Aspect, we might have to take into account almost everything we associate with Planet B. The Fear, the Need, the Responses, the Feeling: perhaps even Expressions, the House and Sign. But in practice this is not so, and we find that there is really only one property of Planet B that pretty well determines how it will affect Planet A, and that is its Feeling. This is all that is required to produce a perfectly adequate interpretation. Let's take an example. Suppose that we are dealing with a birth chart that contains an Aspect between σ and τ , and suppose that we are primarily concerned with interpreting the σ . We first satisfy ourselves as to its central meaning by House and Sign, and now have to take into account the effect on it of τ . This essence of this effect is the Feeling of τ , so we simply add to the manner in which σ is expressed the additional factor of caution.

So far so good, but what does the nature of the Aspect itself bring to the party? For simplicity, let's suppose that there are just three categories of Aspect:

- (a) Conjunctions
- (b) 'Easy' Aspects
- (c) 'Hard' Aspects

If you like, substitute the more politically correct names of 'flowing' and 'challenging' for 'easy' and 'hard'. We teach that the essential differences between these three are as follows. In a conjunction, the Feeling of the second Planet is merely *added to* all else associated with the first Planet. In easy Aspects, the Feeling of the second Planet has the effect of *assisting* your expression of the first. In hard Aspects, the Feeling of the second Planet is the same, but in this case it is *exaggerated*. This makes it harder for the native to express the first Planet because the exaggerated Feeling blocks, hinders or gets in the way of an easy expression of the first Planet. More effort is required. To illustrate these differences, let's go back to the example of σ and τ , and suppose that as before we are concentrating on interpreting the σ . If the Aspect is a conjunction, σ simply gains the additional Feeling of caution. If it is an easy Aspect, the Feeling of τ assists the expression of σ , so the Responses are aided by the additional factor of caution. This may mean that when σ is getting down to doing something, good planning and organisation come into the picture. You do not rush at the job like a bull at a gate. But if the Aspect is a hard one, the caution is overdone, and the activities of σ are blocked. This can show up as doubting your ability to do the job, complaining that you do not have the right tools, and blaming others for interfering and criticising, to name just a few possibilities.

This is all that is needed to interpret any kind of Aspect connecting any two Planets in the chart. The essential factors are the Feelings of the Planets involved. This is also true of all the techniques astrologers use to reveal how our lives unfold after we are born. Whatever kinds of transits, progressions or cycles or returns or directions an astrologer makes use of — and defends to the death — they all have one thing in common. The moving Planets make angles with Planets in the natal chart and so bring about an effect. Again, you might think that it is necessary to bring *all* of the properties of the moving Planet into the interpretation, but this is not necessary. As in the case of Aspects, the only really important factor is its Feeling. For a period of time, the Feeling associated with the moving Planet stimulates the natal Planet.

The period of time involved will depend on what the astrologer considers to be an appropriate orb. Also, the intensity of the added Feeling will generally depend on the nature of the Aspect made by the progressed or transiting Planet, that is, more intense for hard Aspects than for conjunctions and easy Aspects. But as a result, you the native feel a temporary accentuation of the Fear, Need and Feeling of the natal Planet being touched, and as a result, may respond in some visible way. If you do, it will be in a manner consistent with all the symbolisms involved. Of course, you may not respond at all (as judged by external observers) because what has been stirred up is purely internal. This is very common, and is entirely what we would expect in the realm of person-centered astrology. However you respond, it will generally also be consistent with the way you responded to similar stimuli in the past.

On Consultation

How can all this be applied in the context of a consultation? As mentioned earlier, our students are in grave need of guidance as to how to conduct a meaningful session with a client. This is a huge subject, but the following are some of the points that we try to impress upon them.

In a single session, you as the astrologer will be able to focus on only part of the natal chart. A client has telephoned for an appointment, and in the course of conversation, you have identified that part of the chart that is relevant to what has brought the client to you. For argument's sake, suppose that the key Planet happens to be ♀ in ♍ in the Fourth House, and — for simplicity — the only Aspect affecting it is an opposition to the ☉. You mentally review all the relevant phrases, which you have previously committed to memory.

♀: Fear that reality is all there is. Need for transcendence. Feeling of yearning. Responses: escapism, renunciation, compassion.

4th House: My roots. My family, home and cultural heritage.

♂: Being correct, being health conscious, offering service, being efficient, paying attention to detail.

Aspect: The opposition from the ☉ adds to ♀ an exaggerated Feeling of pride.

At the same time, you will check which other Houses ♀ and the ☉ rule in the birth chart. You will mentally review the Associations of these Houses, and will bear in mind that they are somehow connected to the main theme. Then, as well, you will check whether either ♀ or the ☉ is being set off by a progression or transit, and if so, which Planets are involved.

At this point (the students are warned), you may be tempted to venture some predictions. You may feel you know how the client will experience all these factors taken together. You may be confident that you can say how he or she is expressing them. Even worse, you may be drawn into forecasting what will 'happen' as a result. Resist all of this. In the first place, if you feel this temptation, you have to ask yourself why. Is it because you are an astrologer, and therefore expected to be the bringer of the divine word? Are you on an ego trip or worse, a power trip? Secondly, you should understand that whatever your guesses are, they are virtually certain to be wrong. There are far too many possible ways in which any formation in the chart can work itself out.

Unfortunately (we continue), there are far too many astrologers who live in the belief that all of the details of a life situation are there in the chart, if only they had eyes to see. They long to find that one magical technique that will at last unlock all the secrets lurking in the chart, down to the most minute detail. They yearn for more knowledge, more experience, more understanding. They promise themselves that one day they will study the writings of the mediaeval astrologers, in the belief that they knew far more about prediction than we know today. But assuming prediction in this way were possible, what does it profit the client to be told exactly what she is doing, why she is doing it, and what is going to happen? This encourages her in the view that she is a helpless pawn of fate. It gives her no real understanding of the dynamics involved, and no opportunity to take any sort of action, to take charge of her life or shoulder any sort of responsibility.



There is a much better approach. It is to let the client talk, and to listen to what is being said. It is truly remarkable how clients who know no astrology beyond the names of the ☉ Signs, will speak the symbolism

of their charts in brilliant glowing colours, adding yet again to the kaleidoscope of manifestations. Just point them in the direction of the area of life involved, let them talk, and more magic than you can imagine will unfold. The talking out process is wonderfully beneficial. It brings the client eventually to an understanding of everything that he is doing and feeling. It points out the path that must be taken in any future counseling sessions. And as a bonus extra, it tells you the astrologer how that formation is actually working itself out. At first, it is best to let clients tell you what they are *doing*, rather than what they are feeling, perceiving and experiencing. You may be excited about Fears and Needs and Feelings and Responses, but these entities are far too subtle for the client to grasp at first, and he will only gradually come to them.

As the session progresses, ask yourself some silent questions. How is the Need of the key Planet being fulfilled? How is it being fulfilled in the special context of the House that the Planet is in? How is the Profile of the Sign being met? Are the circumstances of life such that they are making the fulfilment of the Need difficult? Is the Need of the key Planet conflicting with the Need of any other Planet? What Expressions are there that are undesirable or counter-productive or not in the client's best interests? In these cases, what can you suggest to lead the client into some other more desirable Expressions that will nevertheless fulfil the Need?

Pay particular attention to the problem of other people's opinions. Does the client agonize over what parents, family, friends, peers or other social groups may think? Have these people actually said anything, or is there just a perception of silent criticism? This is fertile ground for unhappiness, especially in the case of parents. Even if they have passed on, they are still there, shadowy figures within us. And, if we believe they disapprove, they have the power to make our lives a misery, even if we are not consciously aware of that belief. But beware! Tread very carefully! (We caution our students.) This is an area of extreme sensitivity, and even a supremely cautious approach to either of the parents can bring out an eruption of emotion, a torrent of feelings that have long been suppressed or denied, leaving the client (and the astrologer) shaken to the core.

A Word of Thanks to Lesley Warther, for hours of raging but ultimately edifying argument.



Jupiter conjunct Uranus, part 2

From star gazing to erotic bathing



Six Individuals experience the 1997 Conjunction

ANNE WHITAKER

AS I DESCRIBED in the previous issue of *Considerations*, seventeen individuals, whose birth charts were strongly aspected by the ♃-♅ conjunction of 16 February 1997, were asked to describe their experiences. The questions posed included:

1. Had January (immediately prior to the conjunction) been unusually pressured, thwarting and difficult?
2. Was the weekend of 15-16 February 1997 (the time of the conjunction) in any way significant for you?
3. Did anything of significance occur to you over the 13-15 October weekend (when ♅ turned direct, close to 5° ♊)?
4. Was 1997 a typical, average year?

Here are the responses of six of these people, each of whom found the year significant. The responses of all seventeen are interesting, and the stamp of the contradictory pattern of February 1997 can be seen on them all.

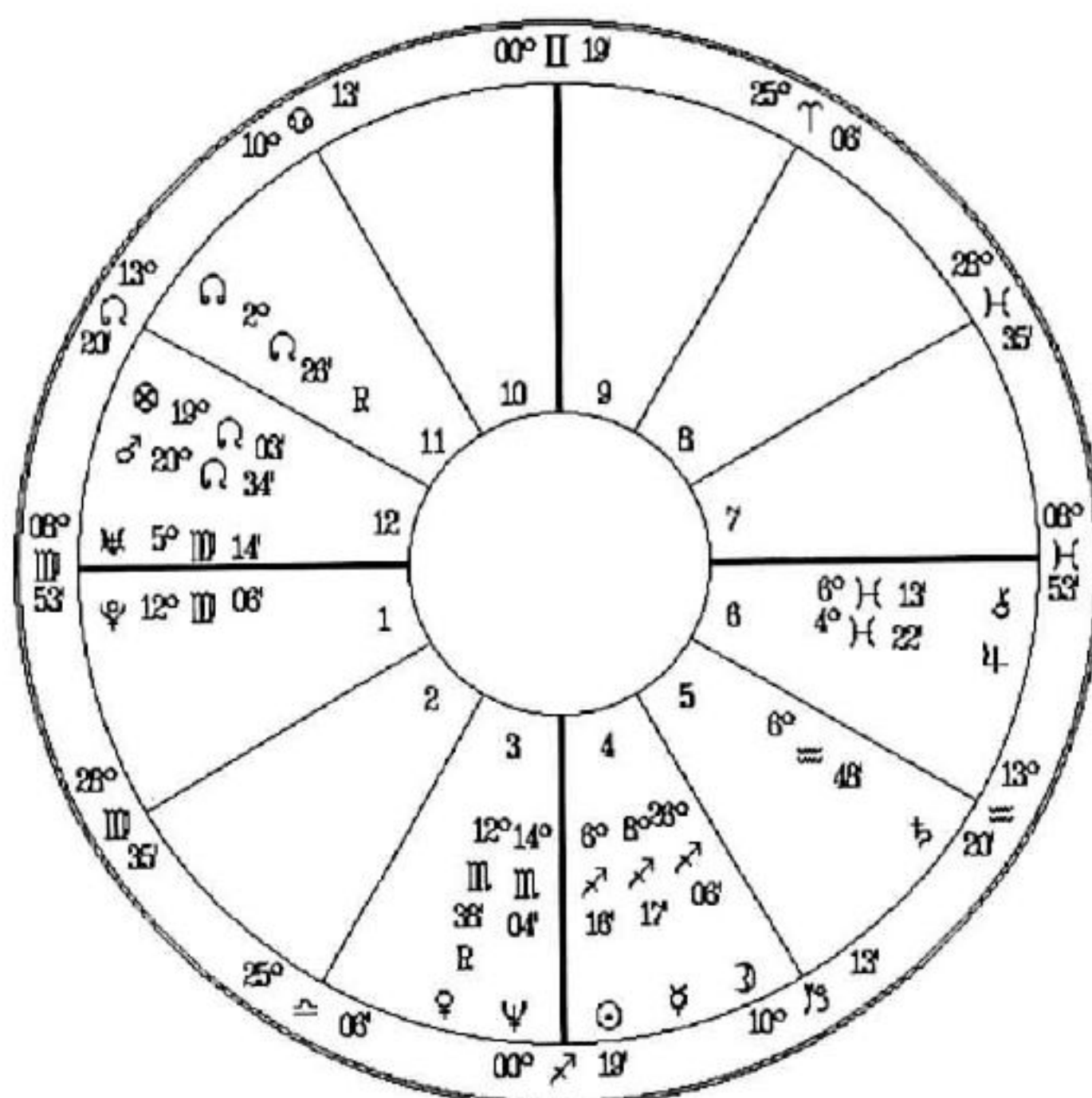
FIRST subject: Maxine, a 35-year-old female: ♃ ♂ ♅ fell on her 5th house ♄ ♂ ♀, △ MC, π the rising ♅, & * ☉ ♂ ♀ in ♋ in 4th.

January 1997 was very difficult. A close friend left a desperately unhappy marriage and turned up on her doorstep. "I heard of lots of relationship break-ups; began to panic about my own... A 'nothing' month workwise." (She is self-employed.)

Figure 1:

Maxine, a 35-year-old female

♄ ♂ ♀ on her 5th house ♃ ♂ ♀



During the first two weeks of February “My live-in partner, after being moody and uncommunicative, expressed a desire for complete and utter personal freedom.” This was utterly unexpected. He said he was moving out, but wanted the relationship to continue — he didn’t leave.



Maxine says she did not experience the conjunction weekend itself as significant. She was experiencing feelings of extreme restlessness throughout February, felt like running away from every responsibility, and started applying for jobs abroad. “The whole of February was extremely unhappy and unsettled.”

Between mid-July and mid-October, major feelings of antagonism (hatred even) towards a regular employer built up and finally exploded in the last week of August. “I threw caution to the wind and pulverized her — felt a great rush of power — aaargh! I can’t imagine why I behaved so recklessly — she is the paymaster, after all.” Curiously, however, the same

employer offered Maxine more work than normal after this outburst. *"The issue is down to respect."* Around about the same time, a close female friend of the subject confessed that she had dreamt every night of physically strangling a female friend with whom she'd had a huge bust-up. *"Violence, it seems, was the order of the day."*

When asked whether the period of 13th-15th October had been of any significance, Maxine's response was to write *"YES; TOTALLY AND UTTERLY,"* doubly underlined. Her horoscope shows that she is more strongly 'plugged in' to the outer planets than any of the other participants. ♁ rising predisposes her toward tapping into the prevailing collective energies. Her friends call her the *"mutable babe from hell"*; she positively crackles with barely contained energy, and has a mass of black, snaky hair. She is a freelance choreographer and dance teacher. Here is her account of her extraordinary experience:

"I was sent away on Monday 13 October to a remote and very beautiful spot with forty five teenagers (complete neds¹) to create a piece of theatre and enrich their lives. What a hideous prospect, I thought at first — but what actually evolved was completely mind blowing! I had no idea what to do with them so I threw the whole thing open to discussion, and here's what happened..."

Background: The majority of the kids involved were not arty-farty West Enders. They had little or no experience of dance, drama or music, or how to present themselves positively in a life context, never mind a theatrical one.

However, I never baulk at a challenge and, while this seemed like a mammoth task, I felt I could contribute something valuable. The heading for the week was "Putting young people first" so I posed the following questions:

- a) What does the title mean to you? (It certainly wasn't providing me with any creative inspiration!)*

Responses varied, but the outcome was generally the same; they felt under pressure always to be the best, to think of me... me... me... stifled in their self-expression, not allowed to be who they wanted.

- b) What do you really want from life?*

'To be happy' was the universal response, which surprised me with a group of 14-17 year olds. I had expected 'Money, money and more money.' Many talked of finding a partner, marrying, settling down,

¹ *"Wee ned"* and *"wee hard man"* are colorful expressions in the local patois of Glasgow that are used to convey a judgment that the person concerned is a moron, philistine, tough, or all three combined.

having children. Working together, being part of a harmonious whole, appeared very important.

c) What do you daydream about?

I encouraged them to think really expansively to get us off the being-famous crap and interesting things started to happen: being free, being able to fly, climbing Everest, being able to see into the future. Fantasy took off...

Then it struck me! I'd been dying to bring my astrology into a piece of theatre and it seemed like the Sun, Venus and Neptune were now jumping off the page at me. I had all the inspiration I needed and I set to work. Everyone was soon busying away on improvisation, songwriting, creating movement and I was on a total high.

The whole week, instead of becoming more frenetic, as I would expect, became calmer. I can't describe it in words; but it was as though



we were all tuning into this kind of 'community' thing. We were by the sea, and I watched as real hardened city kids went to the water's edge each day and sat, saying nothing, gazing into space beside new-found friends. I stood outside one evening, gazing at the magnificent sky and stars, when I was joined by an archetypal wee hard man, who stood silently for a few moments then said "What's happening, Maxine?"

"Who knows. Enjoying yourself. Stu?"

"It's pure brilliant, by the way," he nodded quietly

The unspoken communication was the most incredible thing we were all experiencing.

These are very noisy and rumbustious young people, yet they were walking around as though they were on tranquilizers. A small group asked me if I would teach them how to meditate!

There was a whole higher consciousness, Neptunian thing going on here and I will never, ever forget it. Spiritual connection, I guess.

I told no one where I had drawn my inspiration from until the piece was finished because I fully expected people to think I was a fruitcake. I sat everyone down at the end, explained my planetary springboard, and waited for the guffaws. They didn't happen. They replied in a very sixties "Wow man!" kind of way. Unbelievable!

On Friday 17th October, precisely at 3.17 p.m. when the young people finished performing the work they had spent the week creating, the

clock in the room stopped.

The piece called 'Mind, Body, Spirit' was performed on 30 October 1997 at the City Halls, Glasgow. I really, really hope I've been instrumental in expanding at least a few young minds."

The backdrop to the remarkable planetary line-up of February 1997 was the approaching shift of ♀ into ♁, one of its major themes being the yearning for a more humane, spiritual sense of connectedness as world citizens. We could perceive the atmosphere of this shift pervading the global response to Diana's death and funeral last autumn.

I thought that the unique group experience, for which Maxine's creativity was such a potent catalyst that same autumn, was a smaller scale manifestation of the same collective theme.

She reported November as having been non-eventful, and December as "*the Month of Miscommunication*", particularly the last two weeks. A ghastly Xmas day prompted her to reflect very seriously on her relationship with her mother, and the "*well of resentful feelings about her which surfaced at this time.*" She took a major decision that 1998 would be the year in which she would stop allowing people to make huge emotional demands on her. This was accompanied by turmoil in the relationships concerned, due to her frankness, which led to uncharacteristically dark feelings of deep depression that had not cleared by the end of January. There was also disruption and severe upset caused to both Maxine and her partner when his long-running family feud erupted. The weekend of 31st January was reported as "*really and truly an expect-the-unexpected time,*" with an extraordinary series of coincidences happening to her and her friends.

Has it been a fairly typical, average year? "*1997 has been a year where I took far too much on and paid for it dearly. It felt like everyone was leaning on me and this didn't let up for the entire year. I've learned that I need to protect my own emotional well-being in order that I don't feel totally sapped. 'What about me?' is my phrase for 1997.*

S **SECOND subject:** 40-year-old female: transit conjunct her 8th House ☉, ☿ ♁ in 2nd & ☐ ♀ in 5th.

This lady doesn't know any astrology. Her feedback speaks most eloquently of her ☉ being the planet plugged into the dynamism of the February pattern, as we see her claiming and using her own masculine power in hitherto unaccustomed ways throughout the year.

January 1997 was very difficult. There was a major move to a new office block. In February there were "*continued feelings of trying to break*

out. Began to see partner in a different light. Eyes opened to what had always been there.” She stuck out for what she wanted, although normally more passive. This led to some conflicts at home. She felt more decisive.

She experienced the conjunction-weekend as significant: ‘...very busy — ending the old for the new’. They cleared out the old kitchen that weekend to allow for refurbishment.

Her husband fulfilled a major ambition over the summer by winning a competition to do with his hobby, fishing. He also became very unusually active, taking up cycling with their young son. The whole family did lots of new things; the subject took up computing in September and she also became an officer in the local PTA. She felt she had more space of her own, and much more confidence. Job review was very much a theme; she decided over the summer that her aromatherapy career was going nowhere. She had some very unsettling dreams in the period prior to Diana’s death.

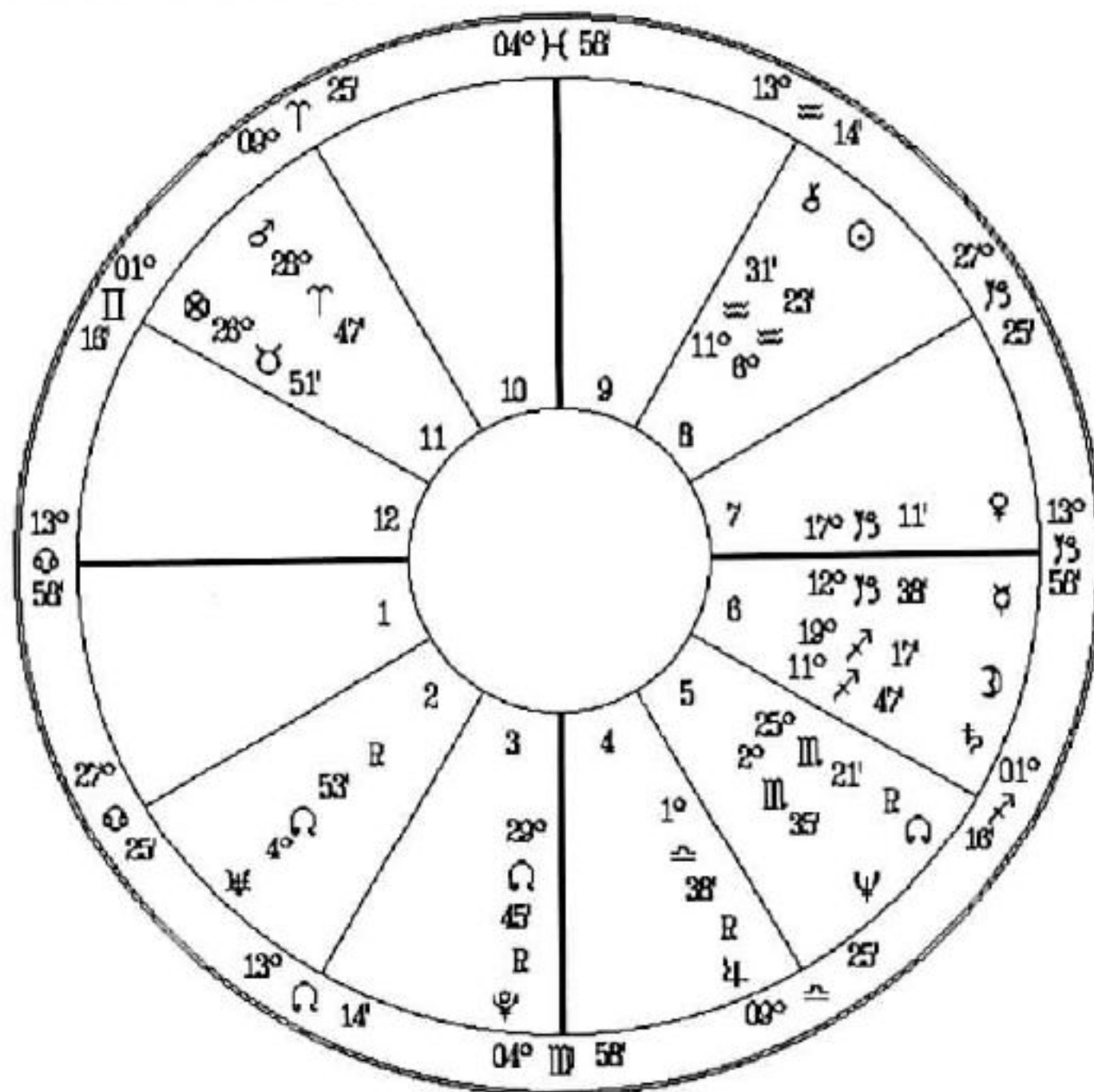


Figure 2:

40-year-old female
♄-♈ is conjunct her 8th House ☉

✠ direct 13-15 October: She accomplished a creative project she had started in the home and was very pleased with herself!

Over the winter, she took on the challenge of a new job; felt she had to prove herself. Her mother-in-law had three heart attacks and a stroke in the first two weeks of December. This caused a huge amount of stress and distress.

Was it a fairly typical, average year? No; a very significant year. She feels she has been able to make her own mark and stand up for herself. *"I have cried floods of tears through frustration, anger, fear and worry, but I seem to be coming through this a very different and much stronger person ... I am constantly amazing myself these days — how I seem to be standing up for myself in a more positive manner... Doors seem to be opening for me through my new job, which could not have been possible in my last position."*

THIRD subject: 41-year-old male. ♃-✠ conjunction on his 11th house ☿, widely ♂ ♀ in 11th & ☿ ♀ in 6th.

With this participant note how vividly the links between natal ☿, ♀, and ♀ interact with the transiting pattern as he tracked the year largely through his dreams. He knows quite a lot of astrology.

January 1997 was a difficult month. *"Work attended to in kitchen after six months inactivity-frustration. Hard work on this."* Three close relatives of friends died. At the time an art teacher, he heard of possible voluntary redundancy from his job.

A review of his financial position led to a February application for voluntary redundancy. *"A very steady, relentless energy flow."*

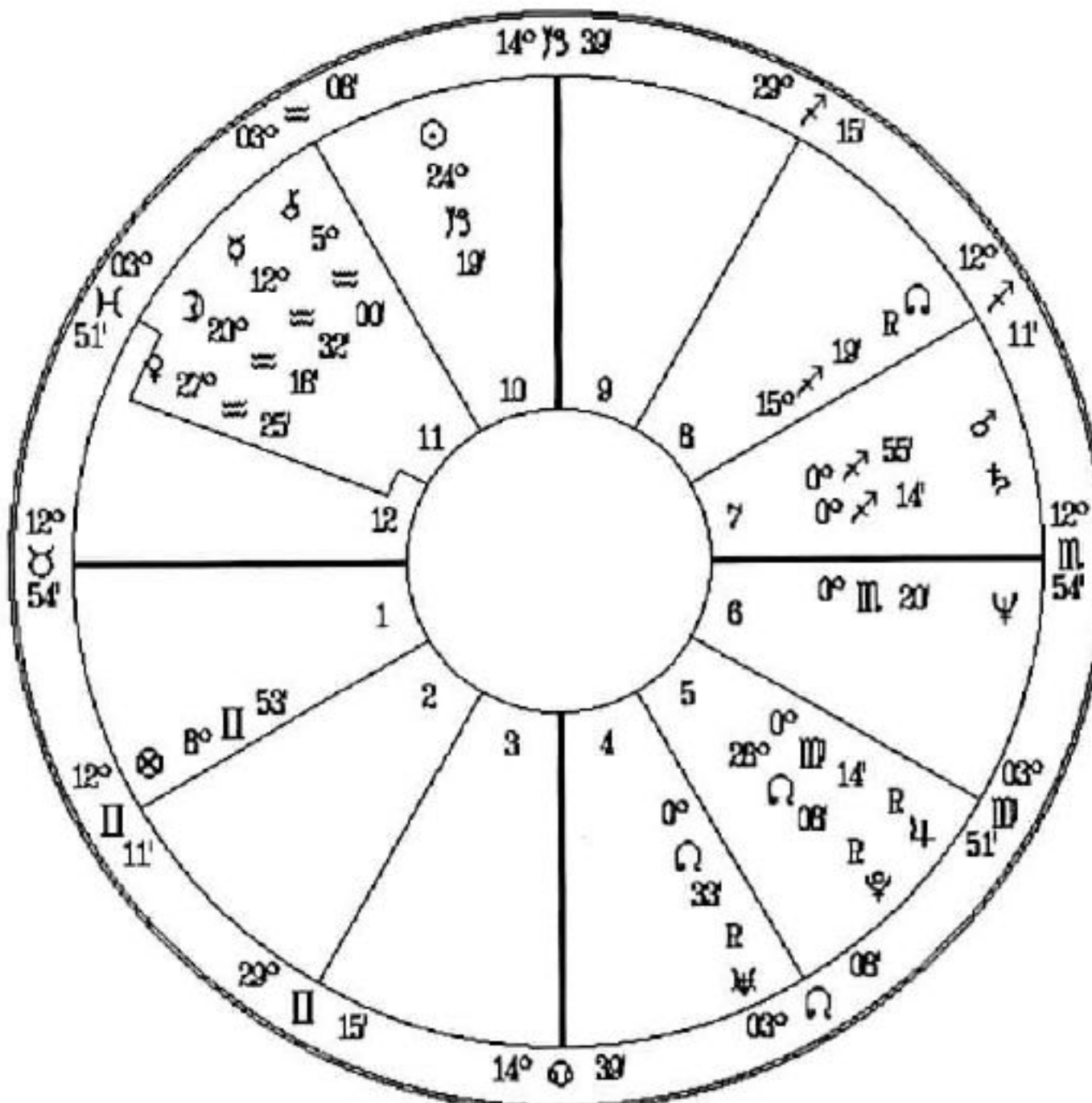
He experienced the conjunction weekend as very important, with a highly significant dream in the early hours of 16 February: *"An indivisibility of certain things — an incredibly significant moment. A coming together of many things precisely. In a kind of futuristic courtyard, I looked out at the night sky where there were two full Moons."* Three days later, he received an offer of voluntary redundancy and accepted it, with *"a great sense of deep healing."* He reported the period of working his notice as feeling *"like a prison sentence being completed."*

The period from mid-July to mid-October was one of waiting for things to happen that had already been set in motion, but in particular it was a time of deep and powerful inner change that culminated in a striking dream on Friday, 17 October. The nature of themes that occurred in dreams during this period concerned in particular, oppression and the liberation that followed, with the inner, idealized image of the feminine

becoming more real and acceptable. On Tuesday 19 August there was a striking dream image: *"I could see two setting suns. One was quite high and white, while the other was low and to the right with patterns of pentagons on it."*

Figure 3:

41-year-old male
 ♀-♂ is on his 11th house ♂



✠ direct 13-15 Oct: nothing specific. But shortly afterwards, on Friday 17 October, he had a big dream in which long-standing painful issues regarding his mother were resolved. In his own words, *"The result of this big dream are immediately apparent; it's as if I am more self-contained, clearly defined or complete in feeling tone and, paradoxically, able to be with another person more completely and be 100% in the present moment. In no longer splitting off parts of myself, it's like rediscovering my relationship with the world afresh, without distorted or irrational feelings interfering. As well as having access to the softer feelings, I also feel more potent as an individual as a result"*

Initially between mid-October 1997 and mid-January 1998, he was extremely depressed, fearful and humorless. The main event of an inner nature was on 6 November, when he dreamed of the Philosopher's Stone of alchemy, a herald of the feelings of integration that were to come. In

his own words, this period: *“was like a total dissociation of personality and affections. I had dreams of crucifixion. After a month or so, I began to feel a connection to a greater sense of awareness — a feeling of great spiritual wholeness — a complete person, in fact, with an openness to others that was without prejudice.”* This enabled him to make a significant connection with his father, for the first time in decades, without any trace of tension or aggro. This feeling of inner connectedness and rightness of things persisted, and he wasn’t subject to the usual mood swings.

The main outer event was at the very end of December when he met a female friend he hadn’t seen for a couple of years. *“It was an amazing experience — the energy around us was tangible. It was as if planets were colliding — we soon knew we wanted to be together and felt right together. We are so alike in fact”* This encounter had been presaged by a number of dreams, and when he received a card from her at the beginning of December, he had felt a strong sense that something like this might happen — as indeed it did. *“All my dreams, it seems, at least from a romantic point of view are coming true.”*



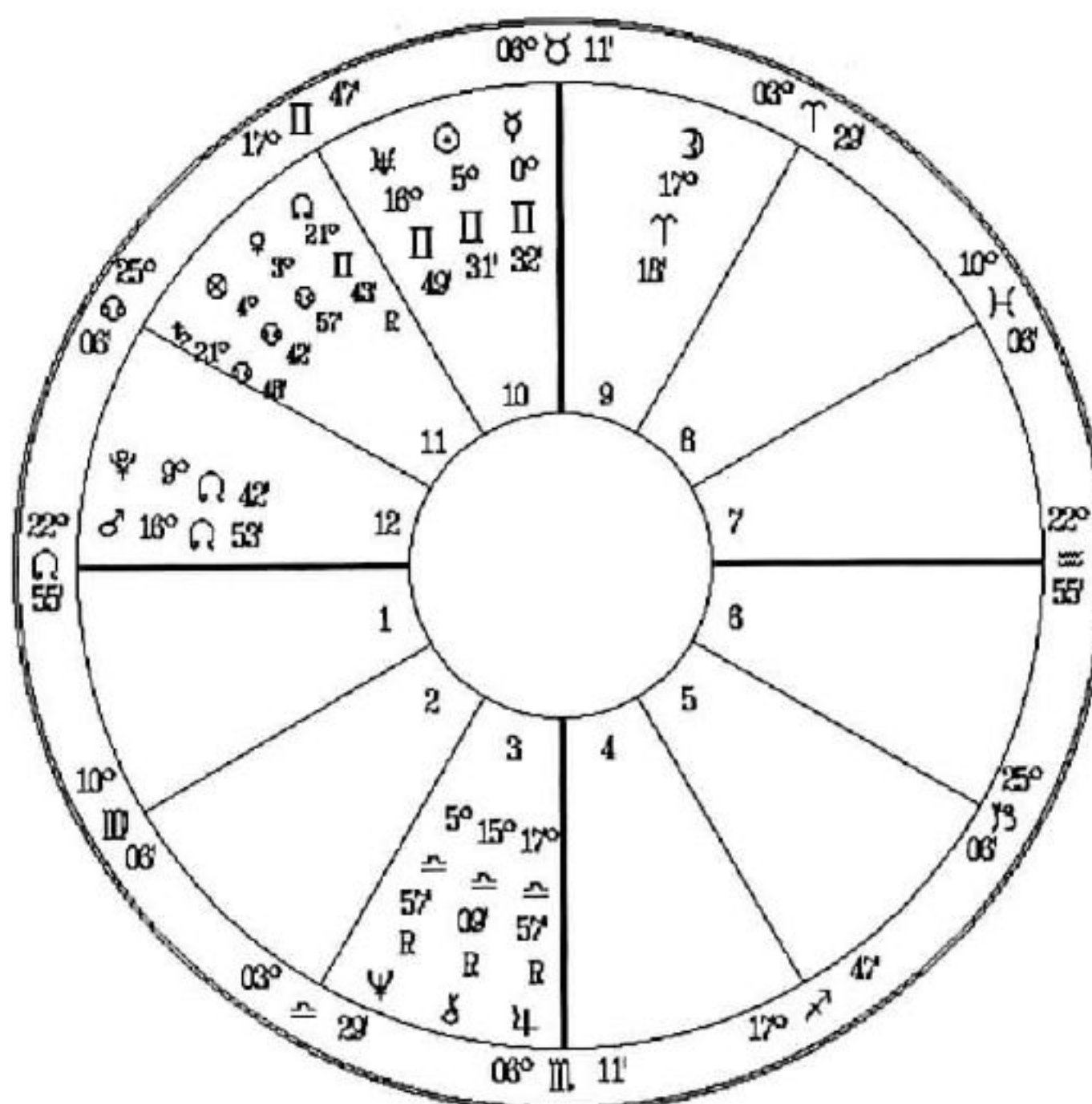
Was it a fairly typical, average year? *“1997 was the most pivotal year of my life — a year in which I have achieved immense self-integration and reorientation. I’m working full-time at what I want most to do. [he is now a freelance artist] I’m with a partner I love and want to be with, and I feel confident and on the threshold of a new life.”*

FOURTH subject: Male, 51 years old: his MC 6° ♂ was squared by transiting ♃ ♂ ♀ from 6th, widely opposing radix ♀ (IC ruler) in 12th.

This man studied astrology with me some years ago. He hasn’t kept up his studies, but maintains a connection via regular astrological reviews of his life annually. I was keen to involve someone whose angles were linked with the ♃ ♂ ♀. His response is particularly articulate, showing quite clearly how both ends of the MC-IC axis resonated to the prevailing energies of the year. I also liked how he wove commentary on his own life into an awareness of the wider global context.

January 1997 was very difficult. Through Xmas and New Year he agonized over his decision to apply for early retirement, taken in late 1996. He decided to cancel the request early in January.

Figure 4: **Male, 51 years old**
transiting ♃ ♂ ♅ squares his MC



The first two weeks of February were dominated by a rush to get their new home, shared with his partner of three years, ready in time for the anniversary of their moving in on 16 February! Important rooms were ready by mid-February: lounge, dining room, their own and guest bedrooms. *"We are now operational as a couple for the first time in our nine year relationship — able to entertain people properly."*

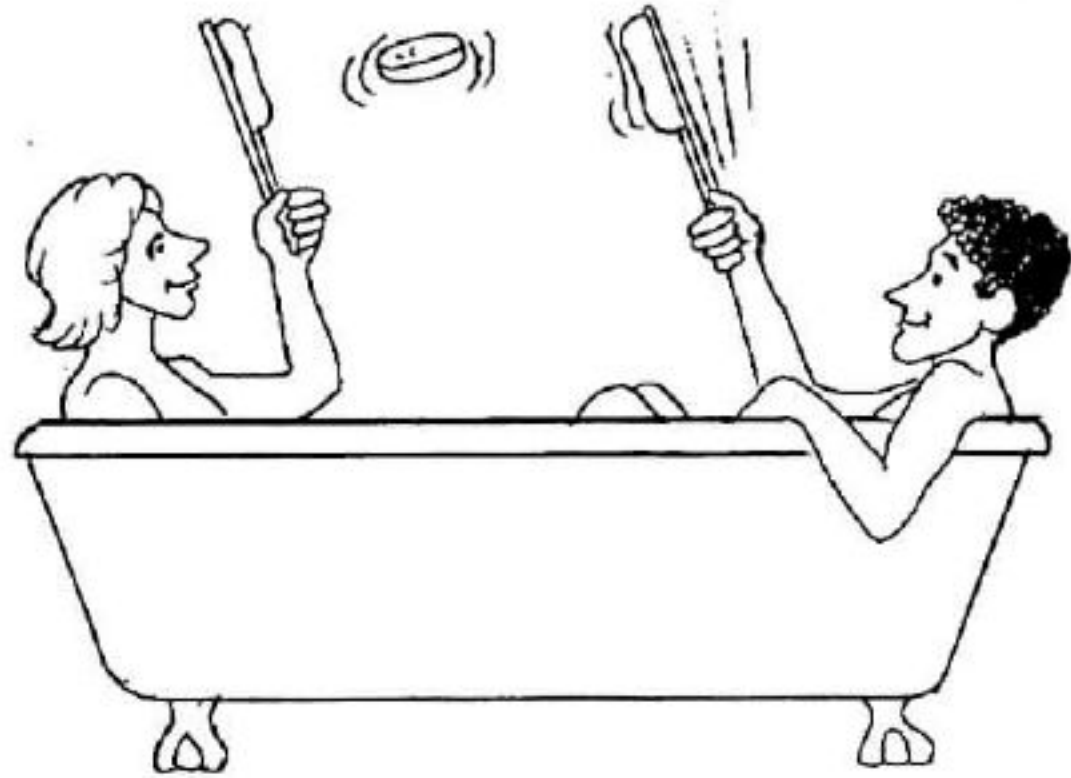
He experienced the conjunction weekend as very significant. It was the third anniversary of entry to the new house. On Saturday 15th they invited friends to dinner; the completion of the dining room was very significant. *"The weekend felt like a completion of some cycle — a very important landmark. Very strong emotions attached to this."*

The mid-July to mid-October period: his partner's mother died suddenly on 16 August. Then there was Diana's death on 31 August, on which event he made the following comment: *"Princess Di's death is clearly the most bizarre aspect of this period — mass hysteria diverting energy from sober analysis of world's problems into pointless frenzy"*

The next event of note for him was the Scottish referendum on 11 September. They voted by post before leaving for a first-ever holiday in the USA between the 9th and 25th September. On referendum day *"I was physically remote — in Chicago. I was also emotionally distant. Despite thirty years in the Scottish National Party. I felt completely uninvolved and disinterested because new Parliament is a pretence of power, not true substance."*

Judging the summer-autumn period as very significant, he observed that, *"For us, personally and emotionally, it has been a period during which a lot has been happening and we have felt quite drained a lot of the time. Despite our tiredness, it has mostly felt like a time of significant progress in our domestic projects."*

⌘ direct 13-15 Oct: 15 October was *"the day on which our new bath was plumbed in and we were able to get all our bodies wet all over for the first time in 10 days — bloody significant if you ask me! It's a true double-ended bath, purpose designed for erotic bathing — oh well, for both of us being in it at the same time without one of us having to rest our head against the taps, anyway. We have sampled it. It was wonderful!"*



Between mid-October 1997 and mid-January 1998, he reported that two parallel strands had been running. One was the fallout from the death of his partner's mother. The process of clearing and selling the house, and settling the estate, didn't start till October. The October to January period was dominated by this, and proved a profoundly emotional experience for his partner as she slowly realized that a major turning point in her life had been reached. She is now alone, with only two stepsiblings who are not close, and no links left to her native city. She received a substantial and unexpected inheritance, and is now financially secure for rest of her life. With her mother's death she is beginning to realize, at 45, that she is no longer young. Her mother's house, after initial difficulty, suddenly sold in mid-January 1998 for a very good price.

The other strand was represented by the subject's own struggle with the decision of whether to stay at work or take early retirement. *"A struggle with major life change issue for a couple of years — in January 97 withdrew voluntary redundancy application. As 97 ended, a window of opportunity began to open for Spring 98, a natural break in our work that would let me leave in good order. So during October-January this has been major point for reflection. An event occurred today (6 February) which I think will prove to be the decisive factor. My reaction to this event is going to determine whether I go or stay, and thus the shape of my life in the future."*

Also, their bathroom was totally gutted and modernized during October 97. After the bath was installed on 15 October, they were then left with *"half a gorgeous new bathroom, stalled, waiting for a tiler, wondering if it would ever be finished!"*

Was it a fairly typical, average year? *"It hasn't been an average year, that's for sure — possibly a year of transition. It started with me withdrawing an application for early retirement and ended with me contemplating submitting it again. I am quite definitely going through some kind of reappraisal-readjustment phase which is either going to lead to me quitting planning, or finding renewed enthusiasm for it. It's going to be as extreme as that. On top of that, it was the year during which C and I got our heads above water financially with this house and the year during which I finally put my divorce behind me. C and I have had to recreate a home, essentially like a pair of young newlyweds. The difference has been that we've been forty-somethings, not twenty-somethings. With the awareness that time ahead is shorter than it once was, we've gone hard at it, and we've had to shell out a lot of money in a short space of time. We will never finish spending money on this house, but I think 97 was the year we got it to the state where we don't have to rush any more. This is emotionally important. We feel established. In other words, a milestone in our lives together was reached in 1997. Taken together with C's mum dying in 1997, with all that that implies, I think 1997 was a real turning point."*

FIFTH subject: Female, 31 years old. Transiting conjunction on her 7th house ♀ in ♊ & ☿ ☿ in 4th.

♀ in ♊ in the 7th house, being triggered by the prevailing 1997 pattern, is so clearly and intensely reflected in the major disruption and change in all her important relationships, and in her radically changing attitudes. Also, her feedback for ☿ going direct in mid-October is one

of the most intriguing accounts of symbolism lived out that I have ever read!

January 1997 was very difficult. “*A flu-ridden month with absolute exhaustion.*” Her partner came to stay and help, injured his back and ended up bedridden. Having had to drag herself out shopping because of this, her car was nearly hit by a driverless car careering by out of control. Her study plans were thwarted. She reported a “*feeling of depletion and dissatisfaction (January) giving way to desperate need for change.*” She started to apply discipline to study for her Faculty of Astrological Studies’ Certificate.



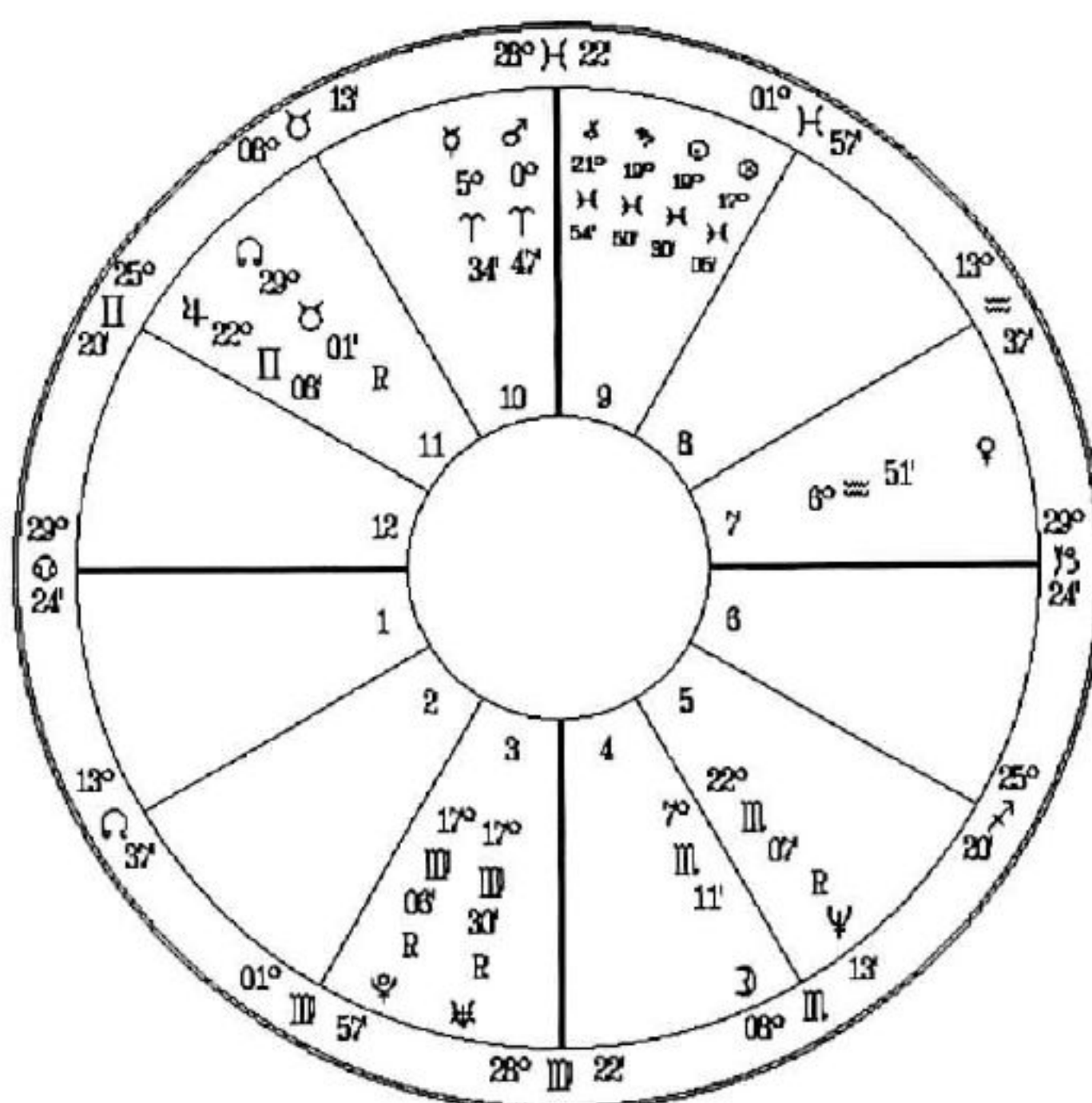
Reporting no significant events of an inner or outer nature over the weekend of 15-16 February, she described the whole of February as important from the point of view of mindset and emotional lessons, including unexplored ones involving the challenge of competition — her partner having suddenly decided to sit the same exam!

She described the summer to autumn period as “*An unprecedented period of inner and outer change. Many major life experiences happening within a very short period.*” Here is her summary of events from mid-July, when she passed her FAS Certificate exam: “*Met absent father after a decade + suicide attempt of maternal grandmother + separation from partner + sister in residence – cramped! + relationship problems with boss at work + health problems, but also new way of looking at health issues + mediator between disputing friends*”. She described all serious relationships as having been re-evaluated, and “*a real drive towards freedom from restricted situations where my own needs were subjugated to others. Letting others fit in round the new me.*”

✠ direct 13-15 Oct: From 13th to 15th October she was in London working on something that is normally done by two company people, enjoying the freedom of working on her own. Then, on her return home on 15th, an ansaphone message from a friend (who was experiencing the same ♀-✠ transit, but a square) “*was the start of a potent synchronous event for me.*” The friend had seen a painting in an art gallery that she took to be the subject. It turned out that the painter had been the subject’s art teacher/mentor thirteen years before; they had lost touch over time.

The appearance of this picture brought up a lot of emotional outpouring and a feeling of connectedness over time for her. Importantly, *"It may not have been me, but something about the spirit of it captured my friend instantly. She did not know I knew the artist. My mum has bought it for my Xmas."*

Figure 5: **Female, 31 years old.**
Transiting conjunction on her 7th house ♀ in ♍



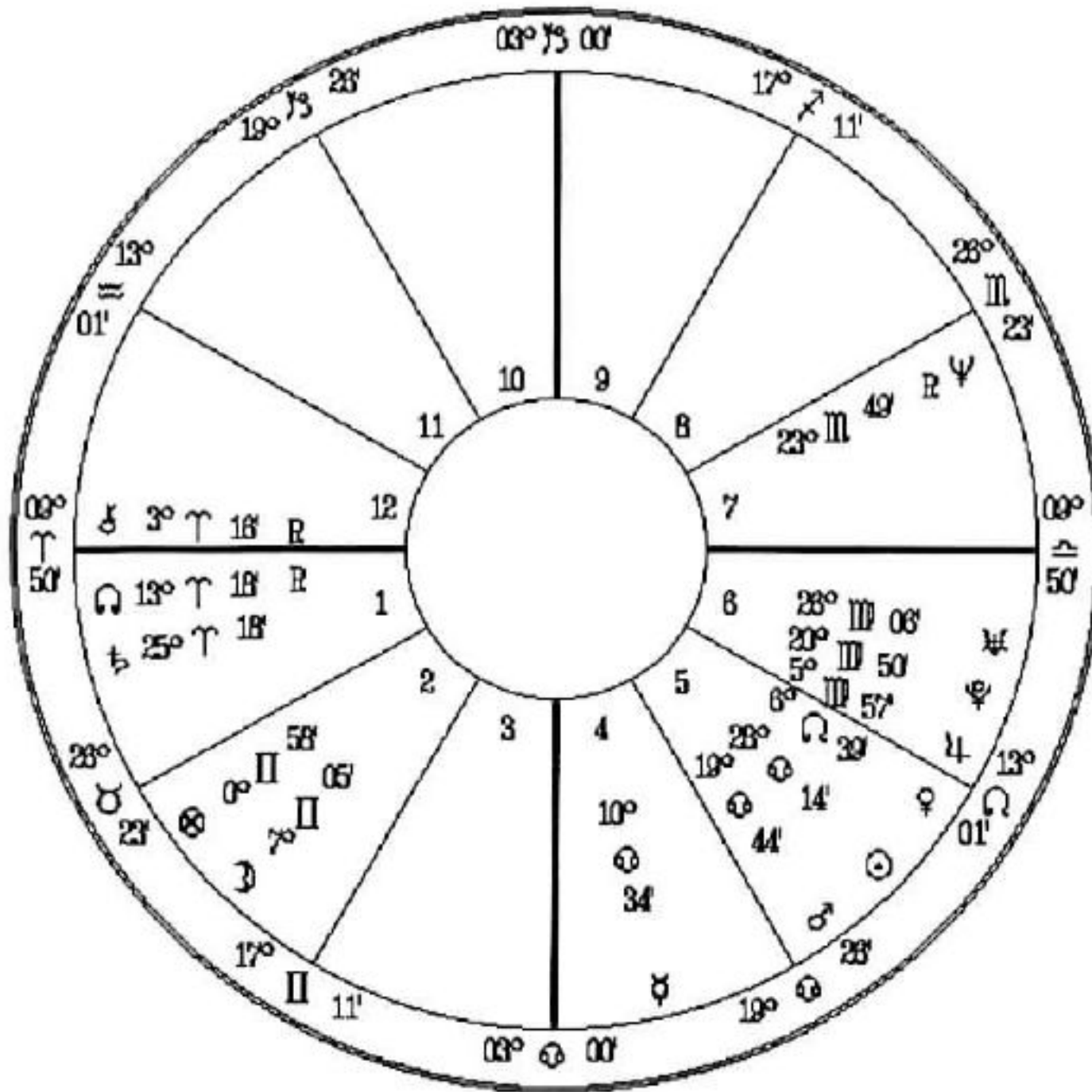
By the end of the year she had walked out of her job, but also reconnected with her absent father and acquired two lovely young stepsisters as a *"fantastic bonus."*

Was it a fairly typical average year? No. *"A phenomenally significant year with most significant relationships sustaining great changes for the better, but very painful and turbulent times. Everything happening at once; tensions uncomfortably high. Feeling of 'putting to rights' many long term issues."*

Sixth Subject: 29-year-old male: Transiting ♄ ♂ ♋ opposing his 5th House ♀ in ♏, ♂ ☾ ☾ in 5th & ♀ ♂ rising in 12th.

Figure 6:

29-year-old male
 Υ σ $\mathbb{M}$ opposes his 5th House Ψ in Ω



After providing largely monosyllabic negatives to most of the questions asked in the questionnaires, his assessment of the year was a total surprise. Here is what he wrote:

I'd just like to point out the problem I've experienced with the survey: I have a terrible memory: I remember significant experiences, but never in terms of exact times and dates. I find it VERY difficult to recall events whilst putting them in a chronological framework. My memories consist of pictures, impressions and feelings, etc.

Well what can I say — it has been an incredible year. You know I pulled out the tape of the reading you did for me a year ago, and I was stunned both by your accuracy, and by the way I have responded to the challenge. I feel as if I am a completely different person. I am well on my way to balance and harmony, I am confident in who and what I am, and the purpose of my life. I have received innumerable revelations, and experienced many personal miracles. As you know, I am a very internal person, and I now understand my true nature. On reflection, I wouldn't change any of my life so far, and / know it's just going to get better and better. Thank you."

This man knows no astrology.

To be continued

The Enlightened Middle Ages of Astrology

PAUL MAHLER DAM

BEGINNING ON page 833 of the new Regulus edition of his *Christian Astrology* (originally published in 1647), William Lilly provides his bibliography, the "Catalogue of most Astrological Authors now extant" that lists the authors and titles of his sources. Among those named are three Danes, the astronomer Tycho Brahe, his student and collaborator Severinus Longomontanus (Christen Sørensen Longberg) and Henricus Ranzavius. Although some of their works in the Royal Library in Copenhagen have been available for a long time, nothing has been published to illustrate the astrological involvement of Tycho Brahe. Scientists in our time persist in saying that Tycho Brahe was simply an astronomer; that he knew astrology was a fraud and that he became annoyed whenever somebody asked him to interpret their horoscope. This is not so. He did tire of people asking him for astrological advice, but that was because they would never follow what he advised. Kings, dukes, noblemen, generals, etc., were accustomed to doing whatever they wanted. They would ignore any advice that was contrary to what they wanted to hear.

As no Danish or foreign astrologer of the 20th century has ever pub-



Tycho Brahe

lished or mentioned the collection of valuable leaflets of the Royal Library in Copenhagen, we decided in 1985 to make a thorough study of these items and in doing so to penetrate into the time of Tycho Brahe and the other 16th Century astrologers. The results were amazing. We found handwritten leaflets in Latin, French and German, and references to fourteen different works, which were mainly written by Lyder Reventlow and by the nobleman Henrik Rantzau. Reventlow, an astrologer that Lilly doesn't mention, died at the age of sixty while traveling to Holland to meet with the emperor Charles V. The German Emperor, who ruled over

the greatest area seen since Charlemagne, was anxious to have Reventlow tell him about his future.

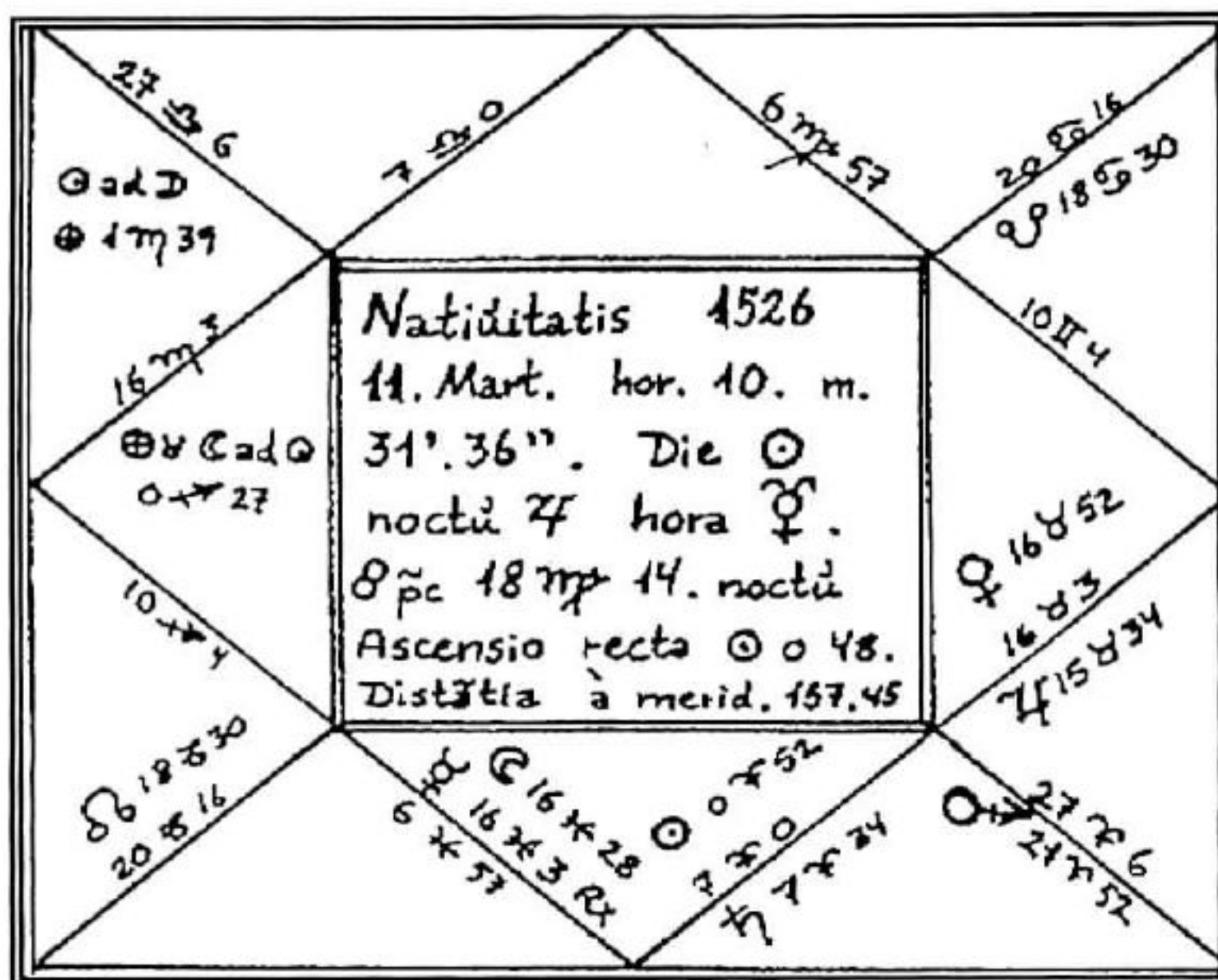
Most important is the fact that the information contained in these medieval leaflets is extremely useful to astrologers today.

HENRIK RANTZAU (Lilly knew of him as Henricus Rantzavius) succeeded the deceased Lyder Reventlow as the astrologer at the court of the Emperor Charles V. He was a son of Johann Rantzau, one of the generals of King Christian III of Denmark. Henrik Rantzau established an extensive library, which was partly burnt down during later plundering by Polish and Czech mercenaries. He was obviously precocious. At the age of twelve (in 1538) he was sent abroad to study at the Protestant University in Wittenberg in Germany, where his Greek professor was the astrologer Phillipp Melanchthon, a friend of the reformer Martin Luther. A fellow student at Wittenberg was Thomas Fincke, a son of Jacob Fincke, the so-called "learned merchant of Flensburg" (Danish city in the 16th Century). Later Fincke assisted Rantzau by writing and publishing astrological literature and by establishing the library that incorporated other kinds of literature as well.

After some time at the emperor's court Rantzau returned to Denmark where he was employed in the service of King Frederic II and became the governor of the duchies on the border between Denmark and Germany. But he quickly got caught between quarrels with the dukes. Tycho Brahe also got into trouble after the death of his protector Frederic II. The political scene in Denmark was changing, in part as the result of the religious struggle in Europe, and Rantzau had to flee to Prague, where he died at the age of 55 in 1601.



Henrik Rantzau



The birth chart of Henrik Rantzau

Lilly lists three writings by Henrik Rantzau¹, but it is another, the leaflet entitled *Thematum Coelestium* (The Theme of Heaven), published posthumously in Wittenberg in 1611, that may be of most interest to us today. This is Rantzau's astrological autobiography, complete with progressions, directions, solar returns, etc. A comprehensive knowledge is handed down to us, which is of immense value. It is fascinating to read how, for example, he made use of the planets' sign rulership, exile, exaltation and fall and how the house positions of the planets and their aspects were accordingly evaluated. The evaluation of planets' dignities in the signs, which our ancestors appear to have been determined according to the Babylonian *Epic of Creation*, is also applied to the associated houses.

For example, ♄ is considered to be strong in the 7th house as ♄ the seventh sign is the sign of its Exaltation, and ☿ is strong in the 10th house as it is exalted in ♄. Consequently a square between them (♄ in the 7th and ☿ in the 10th) was not considered inharmonious or negative, but rather like a trine. On the other hand ♄ in the 1st house squaring ♄ in the 10th, should really be considered a square, because ♄ is in its fall in ♄ and ♄ is in its fall in ♄. Following the same reasoning, a trine between ☿ in 4th house and ♀ in 12th house would in fact be considered a square, as ☿ is in its fall in ☿ and ♀ is in ♄ where it is traditionally weak.

¹ *Tractatus Astrologus*, published posthumously in Frankfurt in 1615; *Idem Opusculum Astronomicum*, Wittenburg; and *Catalogus Imperatorum qui amurant Astrologiam*, Antwerp, 1580.

THE HANDWRITTEN leaflets were very difficult to decipher and translate, but we finally accomplished the study, and over the following years we tested the interpretation and prediction details when advising customers in order to hear their comments. Then we noted down what we believe is relevant to astrologers today, and this has been presented in my Danish astrological handbooks.

The medieval astrologers' wording can sometimes seem weird and arbitrary to us today. Nevertheless we found that the customers on whom we tested these written interpretations acknowledged the correctness of much of them, not least the details of the rulers of the birth chart's houses, both empty houses and houses that contain planets.

It is fascinating to see also that medieval astrologers partly were using interpretations that can be directly related to the seven cuneiform tablets found during the excavation of the ancient city of Nineveh in 1854, including the library of the Assyrian king Assurbanipal (668-628 B.C)

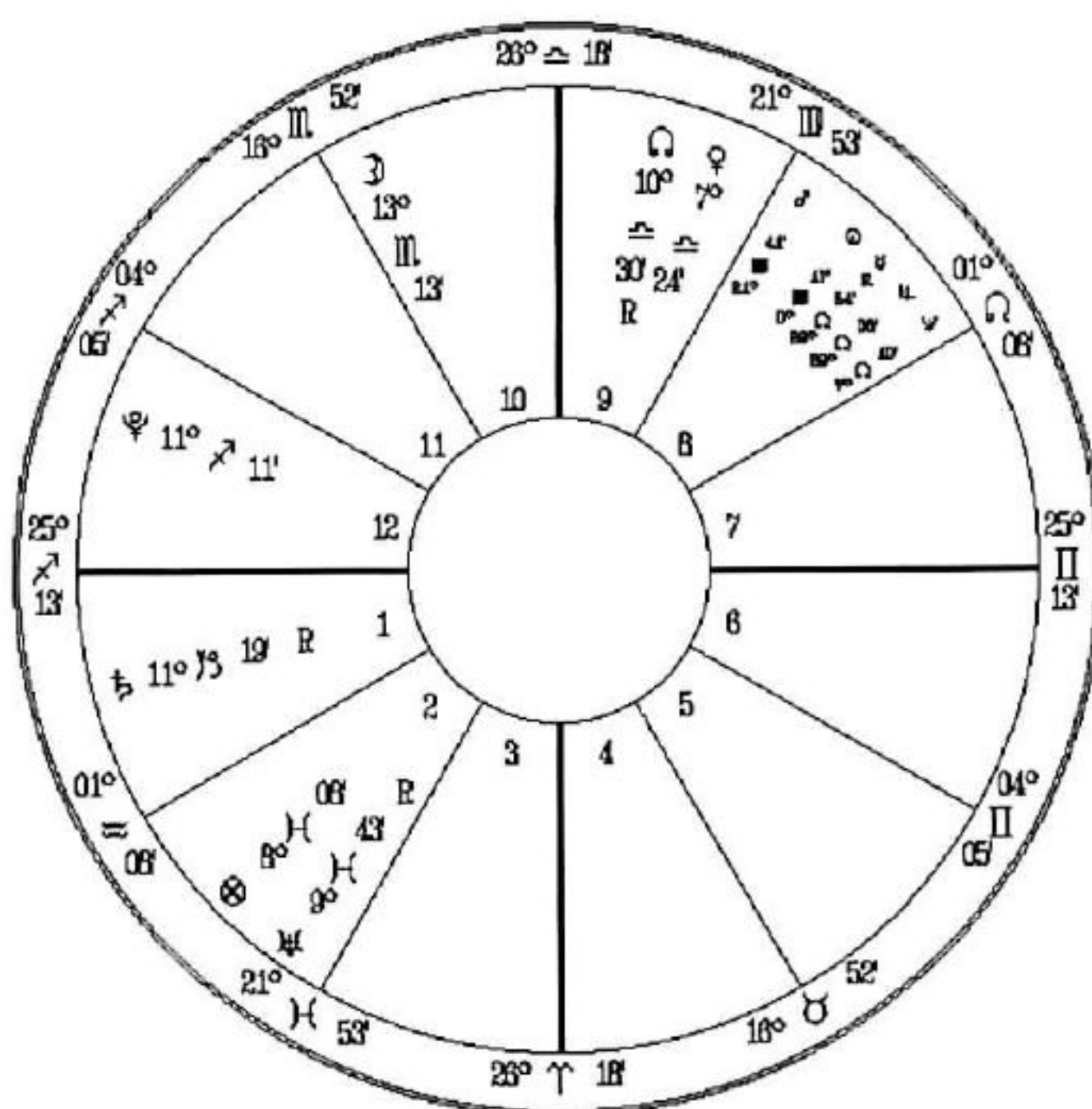
According to the book *The Babylonian Epic of Creation*, published by Professor Stephen Langdon (Oxford 1923), these Assyrian tablets were a copy of an earlier original Babylonian version from about 2350 BC. For example the name of the Babylonian god Marduk (Jupiter) was deliberately suppressed and replaced by Asur, the name of the Assyrian deity. Tablet No. 5 is called "Astronomical Poem". The information of the stone however seems more astrological than astronomical

That the interpretation and prediction methods used by Henrik Rantzau and other 16th Century astrologers, derived apparently directly from ancient Babylon, are still useful can be seen from the following examples:

LOUIS XVI of France (Lois Capet) was born at Versailles (48N48, 2E08) at 3:50 p.m. on August 23rd 1754 (old calendar style). He was decapitated at 10:20 a.m. on January 28, 1793 during the French revolution.

Many modern birth charts may indicate the risk of being beheaded like Louis XVI, but the social status of the person involved is going to be quite different from that of a French King in the 18th Century, and as such they will probably keep their heads. On the other hand violent and evil accidents and actions still do go on in our time, calling our attention to the medieval interpretation.

The planets in the 8th house involve the rulers of 1st, 3rd, 9th and 12th houses, which leaves no room for doubt concerning the risk of an unpleasant death, as the medieval interpretation about the ruler of the 1st house in the 8th clearly states: "*You will die in prison*". As ♄, the ruler of the 1st, is also the ruler of the 12th house, the harsh prediction goes even further: "*The native has an enemy who tries to kill him*".



King Louis XVI of France

The ruler of 4th house is in the 9th, but had Louis XVI succeeded in fleeing from France it wouldn't have helped him much, for ♀ the ruler of the 9th house is also in the 8th house. The medieval prediction in such a case is promising: *"Suicide caused by public dishonor."* Further it says: *"You want to scrape properties together while you are traveling and are a merry soul."*

♀ also rules the 7th house from the 8th, which indicates that his queen, Marie Antoinette, will be in danger, which is confirmed in her birth chart. The medieval prediction goes: *"The native will marry a wealthy woman, who takes the advantages of other peoples' death"* (a strange interpretation maybe, but the life of Marie Antoinette confirms it).

The ruler of the 8th house, the ☉, in its own house seems to indicate both good and bad, depending on aspects and the native's position in the society. Medieval astrologers give several suggestions, for example *"Cause of death unknown"* or the prediction of a *"natural death"*. However the ☉ is ♂ ♀, which emphasizes the importance of his own need for self-expression and to maintain his life as *"a merry soul"* and the decisions he made with this aim in mind.

♀, the ruler of the 10th house is in the 9th. According to the medieval interpretation, this means: *"You are kindly disposed to other people"*. Well, if you don't go without anything in your life, you can afford to be kind to everyone around you.

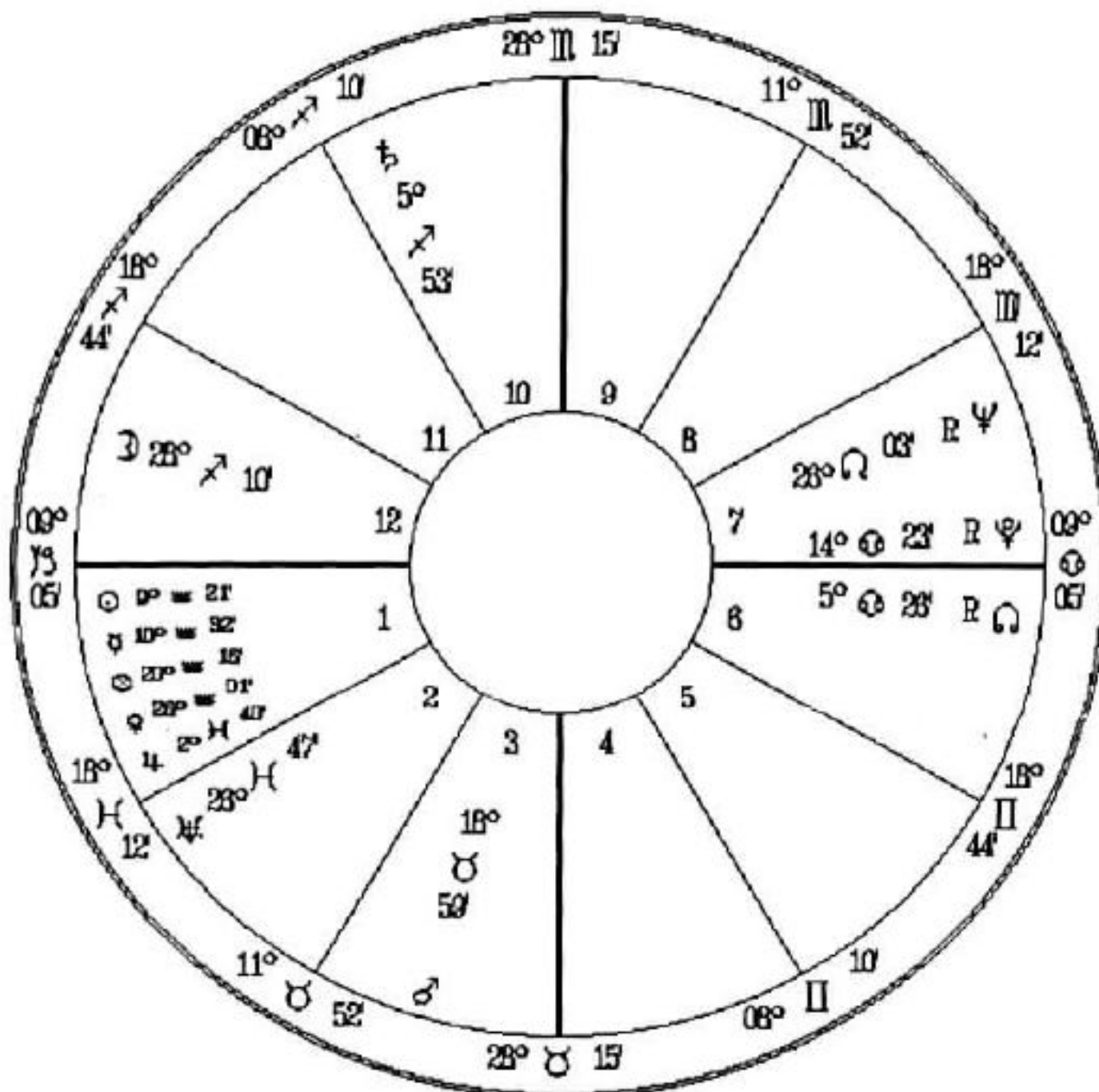
E, ruling the 11th from the 12th, seems to unveil doubtful friends or relatives and they risk ending in a prison too. Again the medieval prediction briefly states: "*The native will die in prison.*" Today we might say: "your expectations and hopes will die."

The ruler of the 12th house positioned in the 8th house must be considered the unluckiest rulership of all. I think many medieval astrologers will have had to warn kings, queens, dukes, noblemen, generals etc., that: *"You have an enemy who will try to kill you"*.

According to medieval astrology, in this chart the Moon is Hyleg and Neptune the Anaretha (the life-destroying power). The ☽ is ☐ ♀, which indicates a confused imagination and lack of “feet on the ground”. Even though ☿ is the Apheta (the life-giving power), on the day of his decapitation this representative of Karma was crossing the IC (cusp of 4th house), which indicates the end of his life. Furthermore, ☿ is in ♄, the sign of its fall, and is exiled (in its detriment) in the 4th house.

O LUF PALME, the assassinated Prime Minister of Sweden is an example from modern times. He was born January 30, 1927, 6:58 a.m. in Stockholm (59N20, 18E03) and assassinated on the 28th of February 1986, in Stockholm.

The house rulers are expressing their silent messages not least at the present, when it seems still impossible to clear up the murder.



Prime Minister Oluf Palme of Sweden

The ruler of the 1st house, ♄, is strongly positioned in the 10th house, which indicates that he is an active and ambitious man. Looking back through his political life, ♄ really played an important role as “the Lord of Karma”, unveiling his destiny. According to medieval interpretation he will “*achieve power, honor and recognition.*” Nevertheless one prediction says: “*The native will be captured and suffer death through the wrath of the mighty*”.

Why was he killed? Was it the act of a single mental disturbed person, or did Palme go too far in his political activity?

♄, symbolizing his social consciousness, is the ruler of the 11th and 12th houses. The unforeseen troubles he had seem to appear from among his fellow men. ♄ □ ♄ and ♄ ♀ suggests some “building castles in Spain” which of course originated from his idealistic and humanistic mind, but sometimes affected him by a lack of timing; he treated his political opponents with hard words which was no doubt part of his political game. The ruler of the 12th house in the 1st indicates, according to medieval interpretation, “*illness in childhood,*” and he actually did suffer from bad lungs when he was a boy. Another medieval version goes: “*The native will be unhappy and his live a bad life which saddles him with many enemies: and he will struggle against them from the beginning of his life*”. And yet another: “*You are weakened and live a bad life, you have many enemies, who will all together fall on you, when you are weak*”.

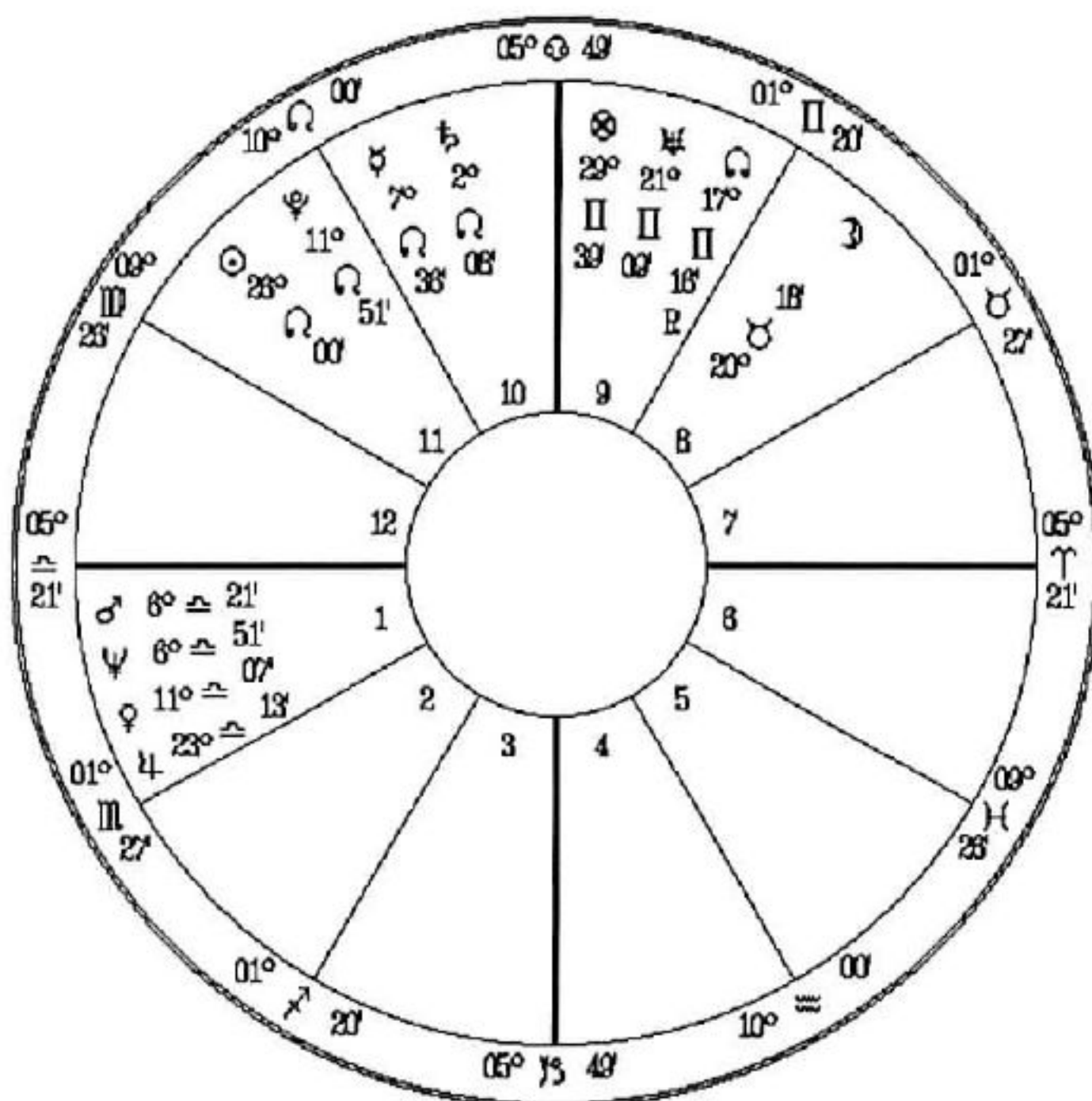
The ruler of the 7th house, the ♃, is in the 12th, close to the ☿. According to medieval interpretation: “*The native will marry a woman from an institution*” or “*He chooses a person of a lower social level, whom he really doesn't like, because he works and worries too much.*” In fact Oluf Palme married a Czech woman in order to get her away from her country. We don't know the background of this decision, but there was a quick divorce and he then married a Swedish woman.

When Oluf Palme was assassinated the progressed Descendant was conjunct the progressed ♄ in ♋, where they were irradiated by the *Antares* (also called the “*Watcher of the West*”), a plutonic star that makes it possible to “use power” which -- seen through karmic glasses -- can expose a person to danger. His life cycle was stopped when ♄ was confronted with “*the Wrath of the Mighty,*” according to the medieval prediction. In addition, the transit ♄ was conjunct both progressed Descendant and progressed ♄.

The remaining rulers of the houses complete the impression of his life of course, but the rulers of the 1st, 7th and 12th houses that have been mentioned here do combine to suggest a conspiracy, which may be the reason of why the perpetrator has never been arrested.

THE EMBARRASSING events involving the American president **Bill Clinton** are widely known. By means of the medieval interpretation he could have been warned in time. If we accept the birth time given in Lois Rodden's *Data News*, his birth chart would have given several messages.

In general the medieval astrologers looked to the 1st, 6th, 8th and 12th houses to indicate predisposed problems with employees, health and illnesses; danger to the life as well as problems concerning inheritance, legacy, the partner's income; and last but not least the unforeseen and inevitable events of life, respectively,



US President Bill Clinton

The 10th house in ♑ is ruled by the ♄ from the 2nd house. According to the medieval interpretation any leader with this combination will be in danger in connection with his job and the authorities, although he benefits through partnership and marriage, as well as inheritance. One direct prediction goes: *"Your death might be due to your public employment"*. The 12th house is ruled by ♀ on the cusp of the 11th, which at first sight seems positive with regard to friends supporting his ideals and hopes. According to the medieval interpretation: *"The native receives only a small inheritance, has a few friends and many enemies,"* and *"The native receives no help or benefits from his friends who suddenly become his enemies"*

The medieval interpretation of the 7th house ruler (♂) in the 1st house may lead to some reflection, it says: *"The native is loved by other women from whom he gets what he desires of benefits or property. He has a*

woman with a stigma who survives him". How the word "stigma" should be understood in this case may be an important question. The woman in such a case need not be the wife.

In 1999-2000 Clinton's progressed σ will $\square$ $\mathbb{P}$, which might be a warning as at the same time progressed $\mathfrak{h}$ becomes exactly σ $\mathfrak{F}$, the ruler of both the 9th and 12th houses (foreign countries and affairs). In April 2000 the progressed $\mathbb{D}$ will square his natal $\mathfrak{F}$ and, as transit $\mathfrak{h}$ at the same time is σ $\mathbb{D}$, Bill Clinton should be very careful with regard to the "foreign affairs" and travels.

At least, that is what Tycho Brahe, Henrik Rantzaii and other medieval astrologers would have warned him, as they warned kings dukes, generals, etc. during their time. In fact their predictions were invariably right, regardless of the fact they had no knowledge of the outer planets.

The medieval astrologers also paid great attention on the fixed stars. As we did with the Swedish Prime Minister, we should look for the involvement of a fixed star at the same time that progressed $\mathfrak{h}$ becomes σ $\mathfrak{F}$ in the birth chart of Bill Clinton: The conjunction occurs close to the position of the fixed star *Asellus Borealis* (the northern one of the two Asses) at $6^{\circ} 45' \Omega$. This would "*warn the native against being too stubborn, irrespective of his sense of justice because he could be the target of hidden enemies.*"

Nowadays our interpretations take into account the sociological, psychological and biological conditions, etc., and as such the medieval wording cannot always be used directly. Nevertheless the wisdom of astrology shows us that each human being is confronted from birth with a "karmic course of life," which should draw prompt us to utilize our natural talents and to control our proclivities.

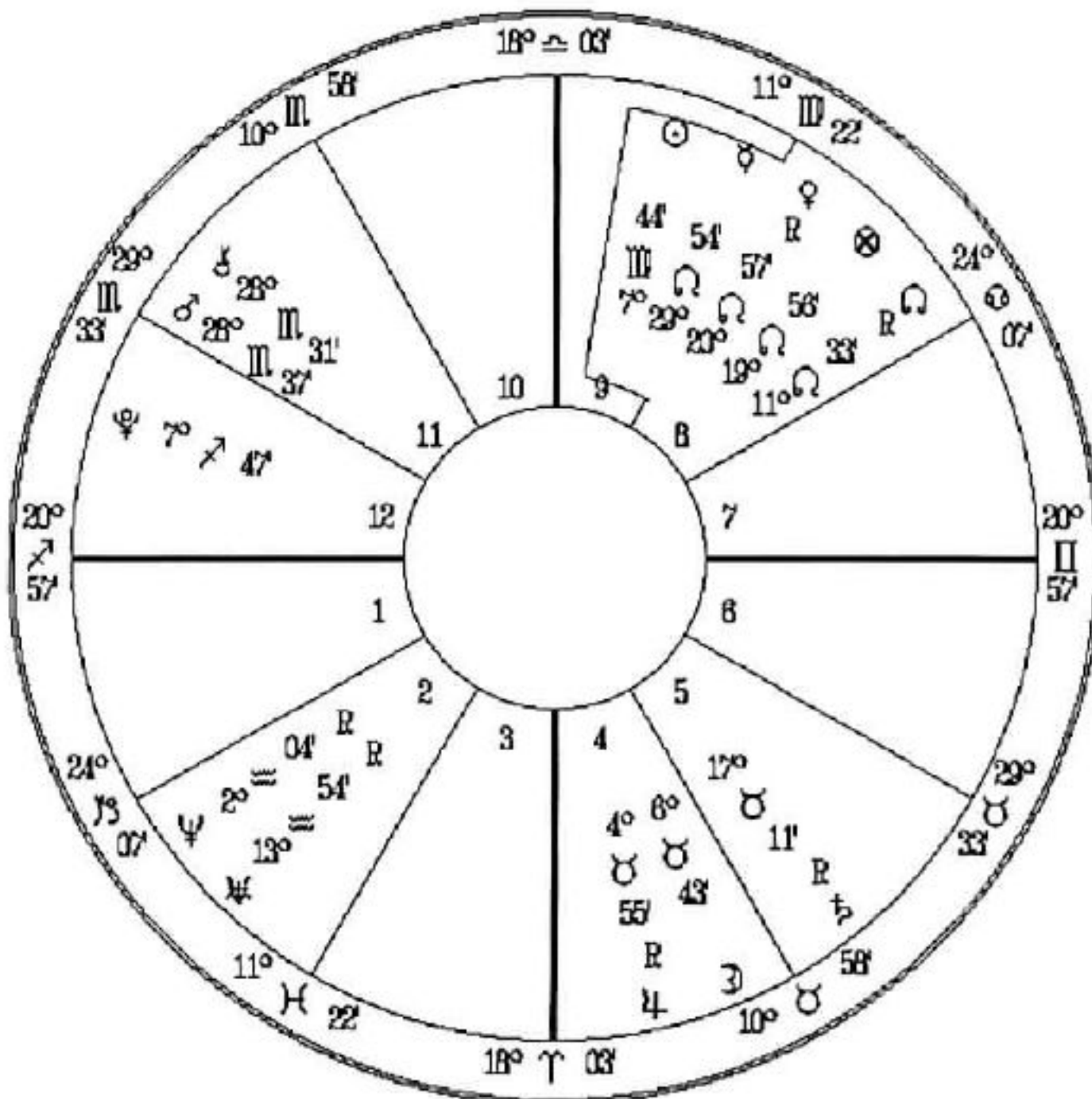
Man's lust for power is the most degenerated state of an incarnated soul, and for some time a human being, according to the aspects and planetary positions in his birth chart, is allowed to follow a powerful destructive trend. However, eventually you will reach a karmic turning point, illustrated by the progressed horoscope, which is very often signified by the outer planets' positions and aspects. The fixed stars seem to have a message, explaining what we felt was completely incomprehensible. According to the Babylonian Epic of Creation each of the twelve months was divided into three decades with each ruled by a fixed star, chosen from 48 constellations that form the three bands of the gods Ea, Anu and Enlil respectively.

As viewed from the earth, the $\odot$, $\mathbb{D}$ and planets are moving through "The Houses of God".



Will Our Friend's Brother Have a Safe Journey?

CONSTANTINE ZINONI Q.H.P.



2:05 PM GMT, August 31st 1999: 46N15, 6E05.

THIS GENTLEMAN is a top hydrologist employed by the government of a European country. He often travels abroad to provide assistance to several developing countries for the elaboration and management of water resources schemes. Lately, he has been very much involved with countries in Asia and for this mission, the subject of this question, he has to visit Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The purpose of this mission is to deliver a series of lectures on hydrological monitoring and water resources management to the local authorities. The problem is that some parts of the region are not safe due to the presence of rebels. These have recently kidnapped some UN personnel and a group of Japanese geologists. Although he would travel escorted, since he had to carry a lot of money for the local personnel, the hydrologist was on this occasion somewhat uneasy going on this voyage as were others close to him. He left on August 29 1999 to return hopefully around September 11.

Interpretation

William Lilly indicates¹ that one must consider for whom the question is asked. Here we have a brother's friend, that is the 3rd from the 11th, corresponding to the first house of the question chart. The rising sign is ♈, which makes ♀ the gentleman's ruler and the w the co-ruler. He is in fact a corpulent man; in addition, his natal Ascendant, ☉, and ☽ respectively are at 21°, 23° and 19° ♈, closely cluster around the Ascendant of the question. He is also very jovial and much liked by all. All these elements correctly describe the person.

We are warned² that when in a horary chart the ruler of the 7th house aspects a malefic the judgment of the astrologer will not please anyone. In this chart ♄, ruler of the 7th, is just past a square with ☿. Instead of an unsatisfactory judgment in this case it signifies a misunderstanding, discovered only some time later, concerning Uzbekistan and Kyrgystan. It was first thought that Uzbekistan was one of the two countries the hydrologist had to visit. This was wrong. The countries included in his tour were first Kazakhstan and then Kyrgystan. Mistakenly, Uzbekistan slipped in because it is the country of the guide/interpreter who was to accompany the hydrologist during his tour.

The significator of the voyage is the ruler of the 9th, ♄, which is peregrine and about to change sign. One could argue that ♄ is combust and in mutual reception with the ☉. However, Lilly said³ that a planet is combust when in the same sign as the q. On the other hand, both Ibn Ezra (35th Aphorism), and Bonatus (30th Consideration) affirm that a planet past the 29th degree of the sign it is in loses its power to the following sign. The position of ♄ is, therefore, ambiguous, as were the traveling plans for this mission. Since ♄ changes signs and moves into one that it rules, it signifies that the original plans will be modified to the advantage of our hydrologist and that the lectures will be well received.

Very fittingly ♄ represents the talks our hydrologist will deliver during his voyage to the people high up in the hierarchy, as signified by the ☽ applying a trine to the ☉ in the 9th of foreign lands.⁴ On the other hand ♄'s combustion, after it has changed sign, could signify a misadventure of some sort or illness.⁵ The ☽ applying to ☐ ♁ and ☿ ♄ supports the hypothesis of a misadventure. The hydrologist's significator is ♃, retrograde and in the 4th. This means that he will come back without undue delays (♄ and ☽ are both fast) after a successful voyage on the whole as ♀ is in an angular house.⁶

¹ William Lilly's *Christian Astrology*, Regulus edition. Page 426.

² *Ibid*, page 122.

³ *Ibid*, page 113.

⁴ *Ibid*, page 428.

⁵ *Ibid*, page 427.

⁶ *Ibid*, pages 423, 425 & 429.

The outcome

The hydrologist did return on the 11th September as planned. He had a very successful journey in Kazakhstan and Kyrgystan, having accomplished all that he intended to do. Prior to his departure, his Hydrology Department was informed that the rebels had kidnapped a group of foreign experts working in the region. It was then decided not to suspend the mission but to curtail its scope and avoid certain areas. He went to Kazakhstan where he delivered the talks and successfully conducted other business. The Kazakhs were very pleased with his visit, and the national television network dedicated a ½ hour of prime time, during the evening news, to his mission. While in Kazakhstan, he was reassured by the Kyrgystan authorities that they had the situation under control and that the rebels did not represent any further danger.

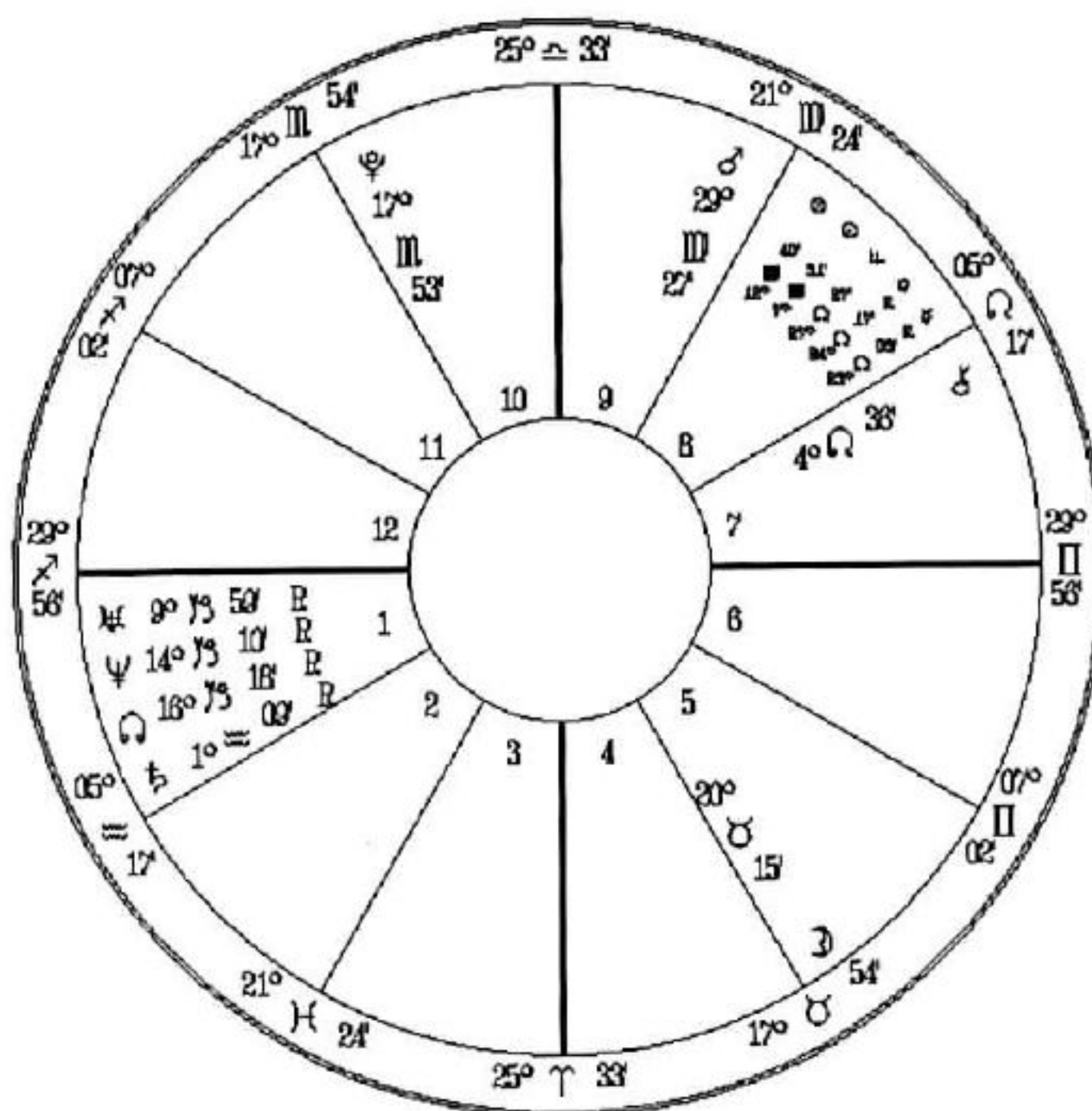
He decided then to implement the original traveling plans (☿ changing sign). This implied, among other things, a car trip in adverse climatic conditions and on such bad roads that took nearly twenty hours to cover a distance of 240 km (☿ combust in ♀ — he was helpless). This unexpected inconvenience (♂ ☐ ♀) resulted in his stomach giving him such serious problems that left him indisposed for a full day after the trip. With hindsight the stomach problems can be traced to: (a) ♀'s rulership of the 9th and most of the 6th house, bringing together matters of health and foreign travel; (b) the ♂'s conjunction to ♄ in ♎.

Lilly says⁷ if you want to know in what part of the body the disease is, look in what sign the significator of the sick party is in and what part of the body that planet signifies in that particular sign. The table on page 119 of *Christian Astrology* simplifies the task in finding the equivalence between signs and parts of the body. To understand this table it is necessary to bear in mind that each planet represents the head of the person when located in its own sign, and that rulership of the other parts of the body observes the sequence of the following eleven signs. In our case the ♂, co-ruler of the querent, is ♄ ♄ in ♎. ♄ rules ♋ and ♌, and ♎ is respectively four and five signs away from them and thus relates to the stomach, according to the above table. In the same table ♄ in ♎ also correlates with the belly although this position is more concerned with the upper part of the torso.

It is also interesting to note the striking similarity between the horary and the chart of Kyrgistan, see chart on the next page. Not only are the angles in the same signs, but also the ☉ in each chart is in the same degree and sign. In mundane charts the ☉ rules the head of a nation and in this horary chart the ☉ is perfecting a square to ♀. Very fittingly, ♀ (subversive forces) signifies the rebels hiding (12th house) in the highest

⁷ *Ibid*, page 120.

places of land, (♂, and moving on horses (also ♂). Not only that, but ♀ co-rules the 10th house of authority and is in mutual reception by triplicity with the ☉, natural ruler of leaders. Also ♀ is just within orb of a square with ♂ in the 12th where the rebels are. This symbolism describes exactly the situation as well as the prompt and energetic action the Kyrgyzstan leadership took in confronting the rebels.



Kyrgistan

10:00 AM GMT, August 31st 1991

Frunze, USSR: 42N54, 74E36

Source: *The Book of World Horoscopes* by Nick Campion



Where are my Casorti Exercises?

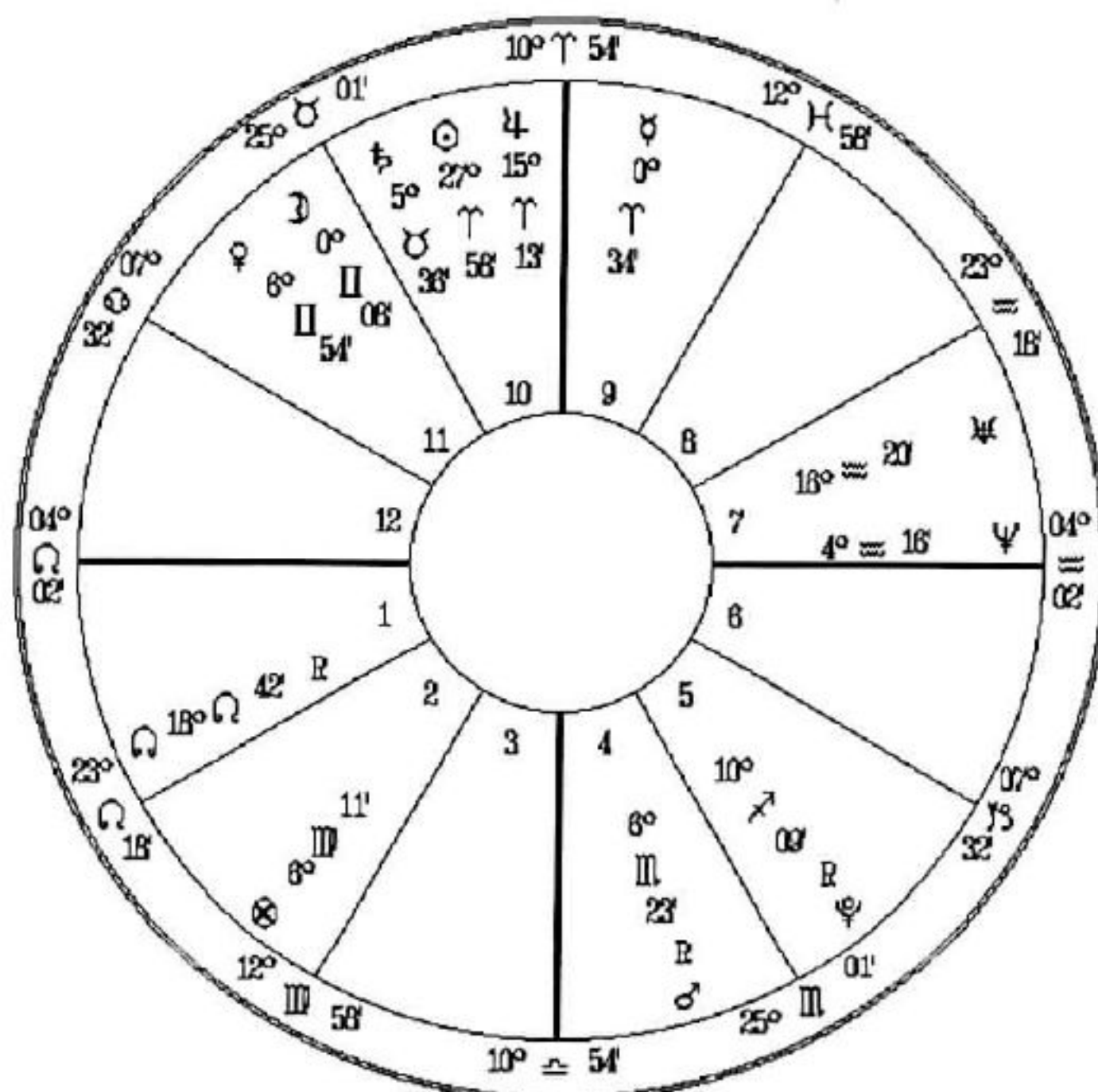
RUTH BAKER Q.H.P.

I HAD LOST some sheet music that I had recently been practicing. I knew it had not gone out of the house and I knew I had not put it in the wrong place because I had left it on the music stand only the day before. It had apparently vanished into thin air and, after nearly an hour's fruitless search and waste of good practice time, I decided to ask a horary question.

Where are my Casorti Exercises?

10:51 AM GMT, April 18th 1999

51N48, 1E09



*♃ has just entered ♊ and is applying to * ♍, who will receive her.*

I am signified by the Ascendant ruler, the ☉, and the ♃ is my co-significator. The music, as my possession, is represented by the 2nd house ruler, also the ☉. The ☉ is in ♈, a fire sign. ♈ points to an easterly direction, and the ☉'s position in the 10th house tells me that my music must be in the room where I work, which is the eastern room upstairs. ♍, the natural significator of printed paper is also in ♈. The ♃, which can

Essential Dignities

	Sign	Exalt	Trip	Term	Face	
☉	♂	☉	☉	♂	♀	Peregrine
☽	♀	☿	♂	♀	♂	
♀	♂	☉	☉	♂	♂	
♀	♀	☿	♂	♀	♂	
♂	♂	-	♀	♂	♂	
♂	♂	☉	☉	♀	☉	
♂	♀	☽	♀	♀	♀	
☿	♀	♀	♀	♀	☉	

represent a lost item, is in ♀, an air sign, confirming that the music is indeed in the upper part of the house. That was puzzling, because I had already searched my workroom. Yet I knew that I should find my music because both ☉ and ☽ are above the earth, the ☽ applies closely to a sextile with ♀, and ☿ is in the 2nd house of my possessions.

I noticed that the ☉ was nearing the end of the sign of ♄, and that both the natural significator ♀ and the ☽ had just changed signs. That meant that the music must have fallen down behind something, or lie close to the walls of the house or be at a threshold. When I looked along the radiator wall (☉ and ♀ in a fire sign) I soon found my music. There it was, in the waste-paper bin that stands behind the sofa, against a wall — the last place I should have thought of looking. How it got there I shall never know. I can only think that when the room was cleaned earlier in the morning, that the sofa and music stand had been moved and that the music had fallen off into the bin. It is rather interesting that ♀ is in the 9th house of long distance travel! I was left wondering just how far my music would have traveled had the waste bin been emptied into the dustbin!



Which House Rules Cars?

OLIVIA BARCLAY QHP

TO STUDY astrology without reference to the great authorities of the past would lead to a confused state of affairs where astrologers were incapable of clear judgment or prediction. Now that we have rediscovered the astrology of the 17th century however, we may find the meanings of some words or phrases have changed.

For instance, on page 52 of his *Christian Astrology*, William Lilly tells us about the 2nd house. This, he assures us shows the wealth or poverty of the querent, all movable goods, money lent, profit or gain, loss or damage. Here the trouble may be with the word 'movable', which I take to mean portable, or carry-able, whereas those things that one cannot carry like houses, tenements, lands, towns, cities, and castles, belong to the 4th. (There are of course many other things, like colors or parts of the body ruled by the 2nd and 4th houses, but mostly they rule tangible objects.)

Some of the other houses also include tangible things; the 5th house for instance, includes taverns. "Why?" you may ask. The reason is that ♀ has her joy in the 5th, and gives her qualities to it of pleasure and entertainment.

The 3rd house rules another tangible article: letters. "Why?" you may again ask. Because the ☽ has her joy in the 3rd and extends her qualities of movement and fluctuation to that house, and if the ☽ is actually in the 3rd "she causes much travel, trotting and trudging" writes Lilly. In brief, the 3rd rules short journeys and communications.

I include cars in the 3rd. You can't carry them about, yet they belong in Lilly's category of "trotting and trudging and traveling about."

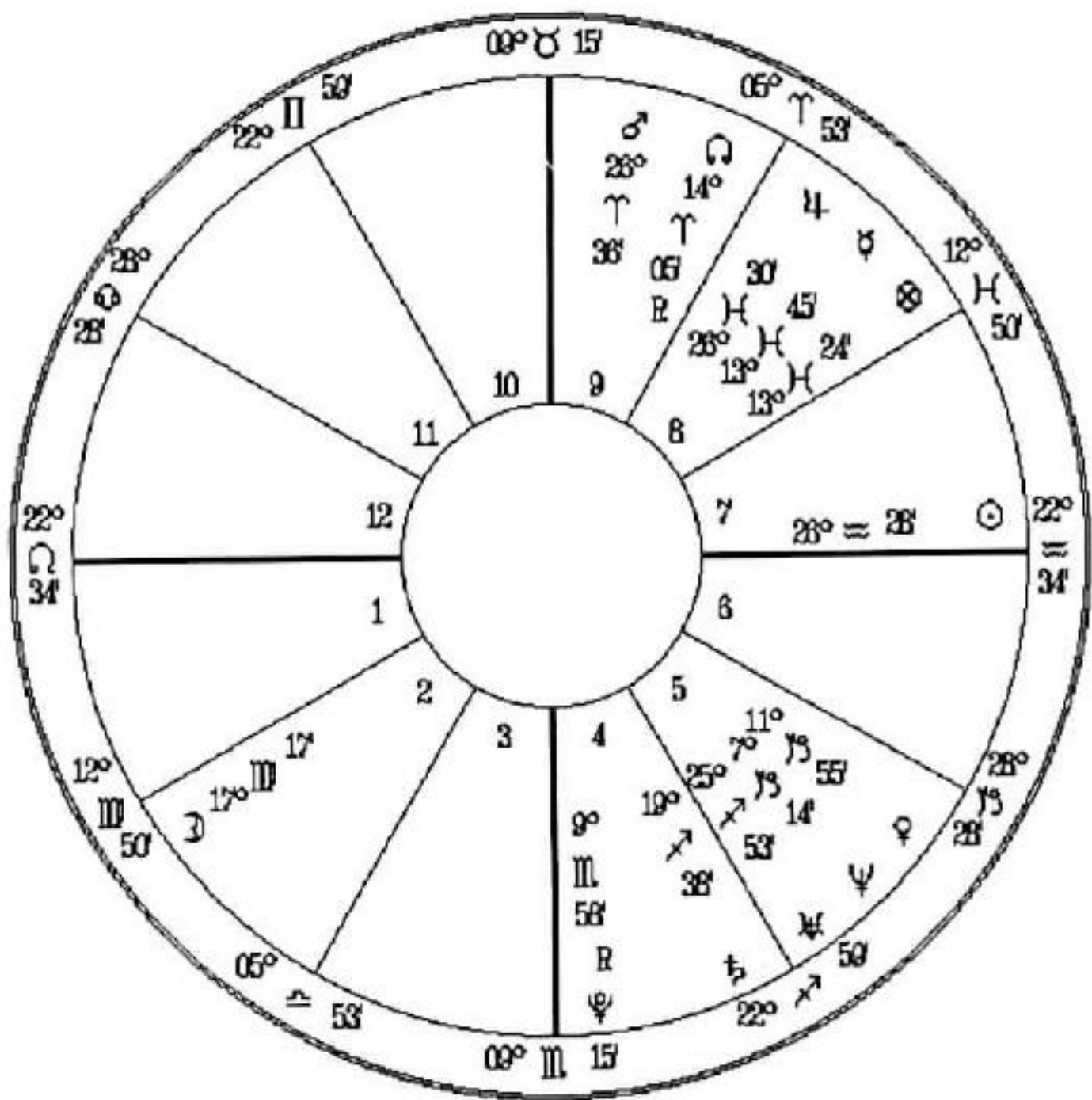
When I was writing my book *Horary Astrology Rediscovered*, Clive Kavan, (publisher of the Regulus edition of *Christian Astrology*) asked me a horary, "I have fallen in love with a 1937 Bentley. Will I be able to buy it?"¹

I spent two or three days on this chart because I wanted to test which house cars belong to, and whether I could define the car's color. In a valid chart the object is always described in a recognizable way. Had the 2nd house described the car I would look at ♄ and ♀ its ruler in ♏, on the 8th cusp. Had the car been described by the 3rd I would look instead at ♌ and its ruler ♀.

¹ This horary is analyzed in detail on pages 217-220 of *Horary Astrology Rediscovered* (West Chester, PA: Whitford Press, 1990)

*I have fallen in love with a 1937 Bentley.
Will I be able to buy it?*

4:42 P.M. GMT, February 15, 1987
51N13, 1E25



Perhaps you would like to participate in this puzzle to decide on the color of the car without looking at the end of the article.

House	Color
I	White or gray
II	Green
III	Red or yellow or saffron
IV	Red
V	Black and white or honey
VI	Black
VII	Dark black ²
VIII	Black and green ³
IX	Green and white
X	Red and white
XI	Saffron yellow
XII	Green

² Does that infer the 6th was only dark gray?

³ I wonder if that means bottle green, explaining the prejudice that dark green is unlucky.

The planets also rule color:

<i>Planet</i>	<i>Color</i>
♄	Dull leaden and ashy colors
♅	Blue, purple and ashy yellow or green,
♂	Red or yellow,
☉	Gold and scarlet, some say purple
♀	Milky sky color ⁴ or white
♀	Mixed colors (Lilly says "like the neck of a stock dove") and quicksilver.
♁	Silver white, and a pale yellowish color (cream?) and the color of mother of pearl.

The signs too have connections with colors:

<i>Sign</i>	<i>Color</i>
♈	White and red
♉	White and lemon ⁵
♊	White and red
♋	Green or russet
♌	Red or green
♍	Black and blue
♎	Black and dark red ⁶
♏	Brown ⁷
♐	Yellow or green sanguine (that is a golden green)
♑	Black or russet
♒	Sky blue
♓	Glistening white

Now let us consider the chart. Is the car described by ♀ in the 8th plus the ♁? Or is it to be described by ♀ in the 5th? Ponder on this. Ponder for several hours if possible. What is your conclusion?

Clive had said he was in love with this car, so I went for ♀ in the 5th. My first thought had been that the car was black, because ♀ is in the adjectival sign ♑, emphasized by the black and white connection to the 5th house. But then I thought on, and because of Clive's pleasure and joy for the car, I decided ♄ was overruled and ♀ in the 5th ruling honey color

⁴ The term "milky sky color" makes me think Lilly means turquoise, a color so popular at weddings that before I knew about astrology I used to call it "get-married-in-blue"

⁵ Taureans also like a grass green.

⁶ I have noted this in serious Librans but the flippant kind seem to like pastel colors

⁷ I have noted deep red and deep green like the sea.

should prevail. I phoned to ask Clive the color. Yes, it was honey colored.

This confirms the rulership by the 3rd of cars.

Unfortunately Clive did not have enough money to buy it after all, and had to make do with a cheaper car.

I mention all this because I hear that a horary course, set up in opposition to mine, contradicts me and teaches that cars belong to the 2nd house, probably through misunderstanding the old word 'movable.'



Three Horaries

KAREN CHRISTINO

Should I Take the Astronomy Course?

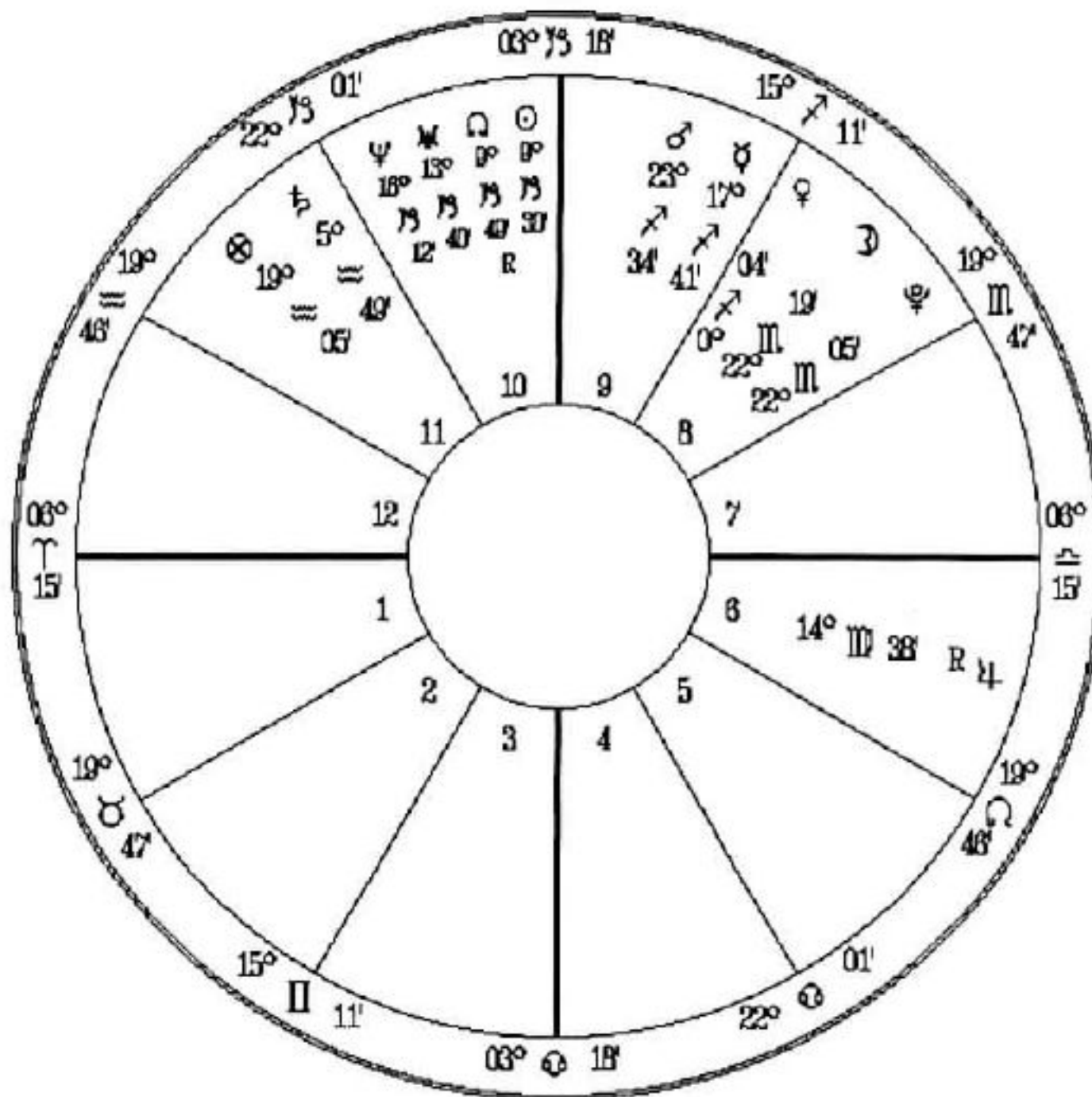
I had started an astronomy course in college, but became so angry at the teacher's obnoxious comments about astrology that I dropped it. After many years, I still felt I needed to have a better grasp of astronomy, and requested a course catalog from the local planetarium. There was an appropriate course available, but I still had mixed emotions, so did a horary.

♄ rises, and I do have ♄ rising natally, so this obviously represents me. ♀ is in ♌ in the 9th house, strongly suggesting that I take the initiative to further my education. ♌ is on the 9th, and ♀ in ♌ placed therein, and the travel time to the class was over an hour and involved taking two trains. The ☉ and ♄ are exactly parallel: this was a new and different subject for me, and one that related to my astrology work.

The teacher is represented by both ♀ and its ruler ♃. ♃ is in ♍ and the teacher did seem to know the topic. But ♃ is retrograde, in detriment, and squares its ruler, ♀, which is also in detriment in ♌ (though the planets' mutual reception lightens some of these difficulties). The teacher was extremely prejudiced about astrology, and had nearly a stand-up comedy routine about her objections to it. One could also characterize her as something of a "mad wag." But as ♃ also rules my studies and is stationary retrograde, it also signifies my intention to go back and expand my knowledge by incorporating astronomical basics.



As ♀ conjoins ♂, however, the teacher and I come together. This was good evidence that I should go ahead and take the course anyway, which I did. But the ♃ is void of course in ♍, not one of the signs in which she should even work "somewhat" — though in orb of conjoining ♀; Maurice McCann's reading of Lilly would not interpret this as void. The ♃ is placed in the 8th house, and moves away from a close conjunction with ♄, but I did find this descriptive of my situation. I had old prejudices about astronomers that needed to be overcome. The ♃ will soon be in ♏: I did learn a lot and got some of the grounding in astronomy that I had wanted.



Should I take the Astronomy Course?

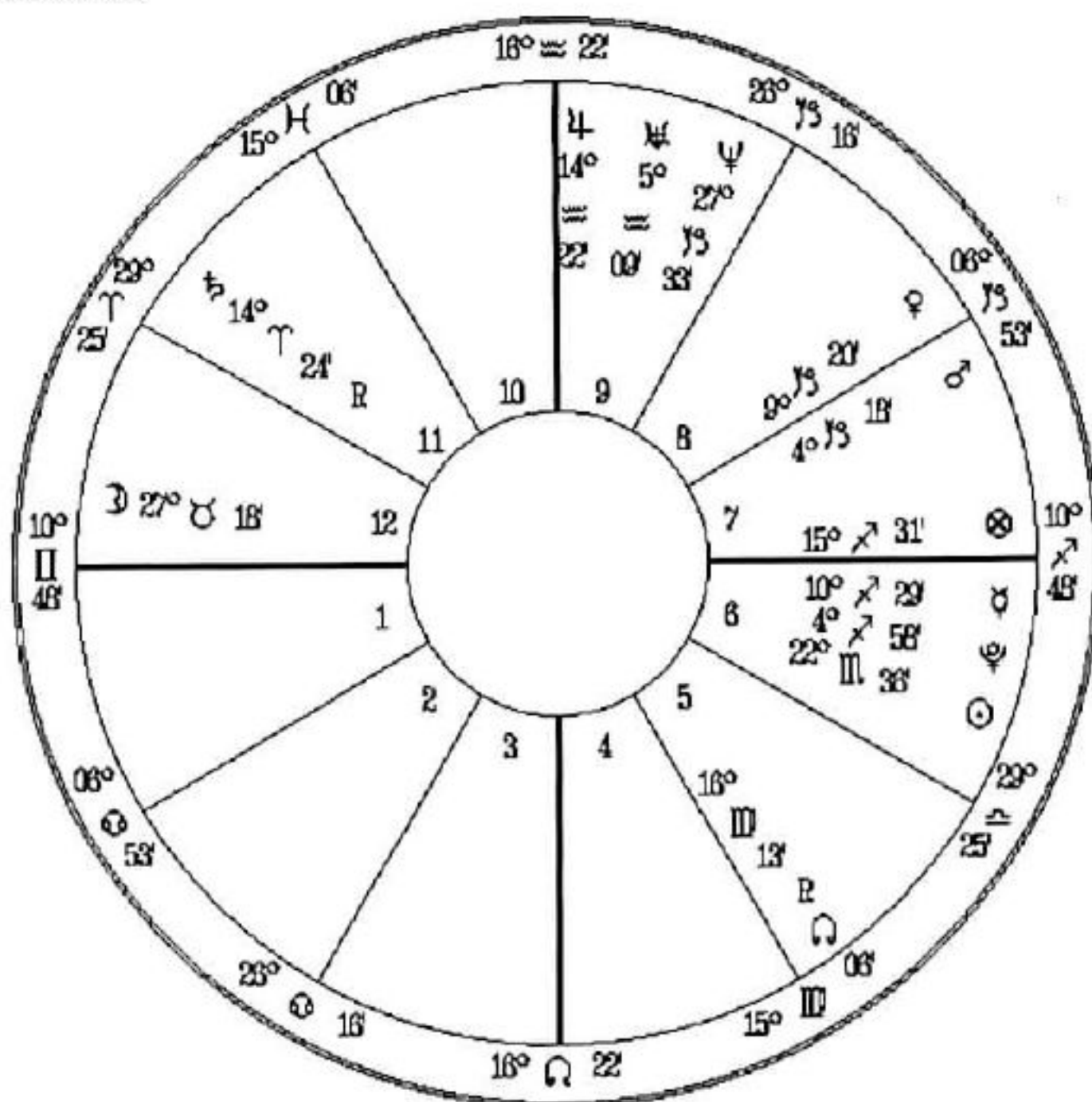
11:32 AM EST, 31st December 1991,
Brooklyn Heights, New York: 40N42, 73W60
Tropical, Regiomontanus

Should I Go to the Play?

My husband is a playwright, and he'd been involved with a writer's group affiliated with a theater company. While the company superficially supported the writers' creative efforts, they were more interested in producing plays that would have popular appeal and those in which they could star their company actors. Their current production was an inane, badly written comedy starring the artistic staff, and my husband had already promised the artistic director he would attend. But he began feeling more and more disgruntled with the

group and no longer wanted to go. On the Friday prior to the last performance he was coming down with a cold and bad weather was promised. Yet a colleague had just advised him that the director was angry that company members were not supporting the production. He began feeling guilty that he should attend, and worried that he might be cut out of the group completely.

My husband, the writer, is accurately symbolized by Π rising, within a few degrees of his natal φ . The show, ruled by the 5th house, is also ruled by φ , and the two come together on the cusp of the 7th: a public event. But φ is in detriment in $\nearrow$ and out of bounds in declination, presumably indicating my husband's difference of opinion with the group's priorities. φ leaves a conjunction with $\sqcup$, signifying both his disgruntled attitude as well as the financial considerations which were part of the play's selection.



Should I go to the play?

5:35 PM EST, 14th November 1997

Brooklyn Heights, New York: 40N42, 73W60

But φ moves to $\ast$ γ and the Midheaven, trines γ , and finally conjoins the $\otimes$: attending the play should prove expansive and beneficial to his work. The $\mathcal{D}$ is exalted in $\varnothing$ and will very shortly $\ast$ Ψ in the ninth, so there should be some satisfaction in following through on his commitment. I advised him to go.

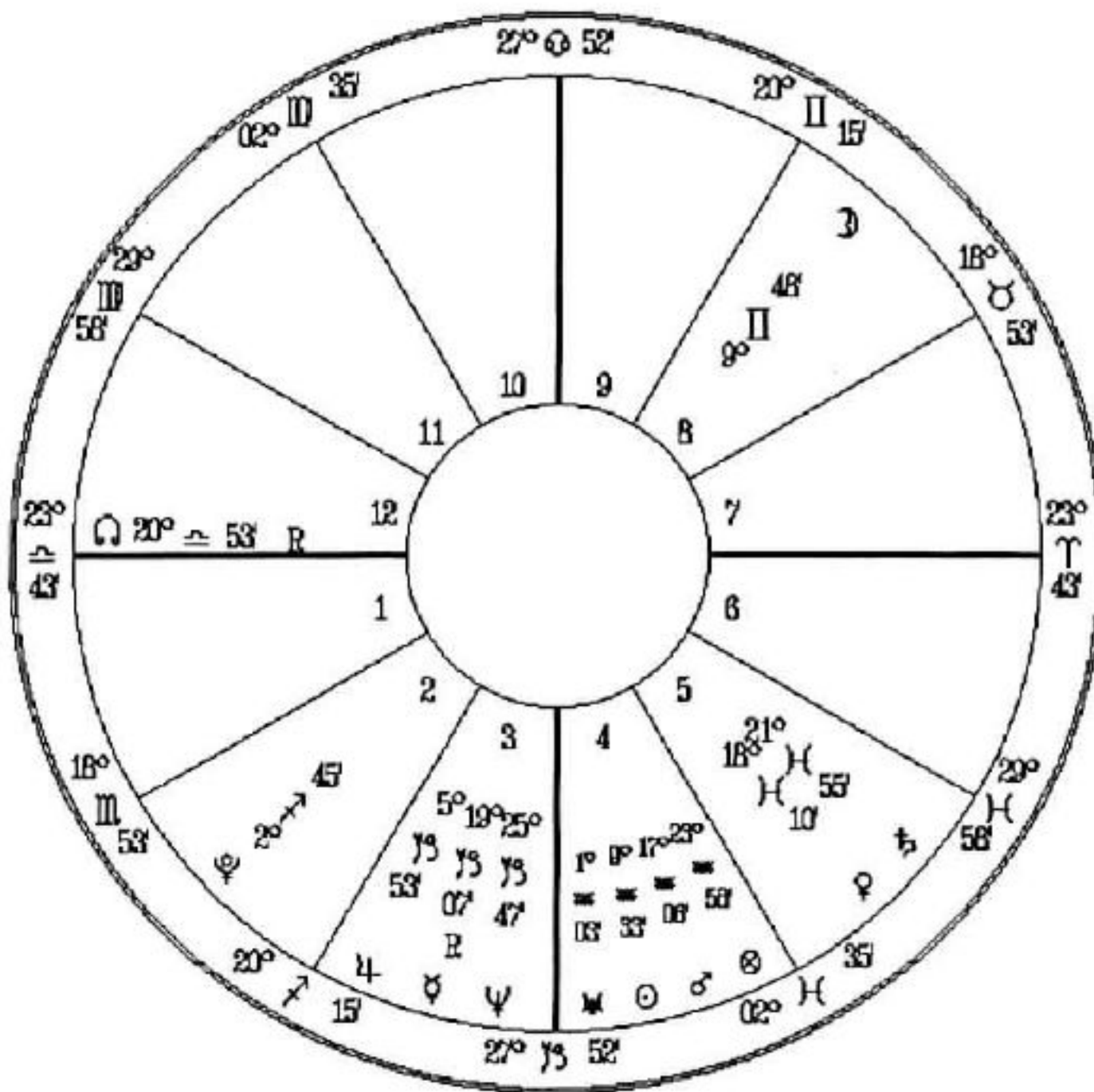
He went with a good friend, ruled by γ , Ψ and γ , and enjoyed his

company. The show was even worse than they had expected, and their opinion of the situation was confirmed, though they stayed with the playwriting group for about another year. On the way home from the play, my husband coincidentally ran into another artistic director with his own playwright's group.

Where is the Magnet?

I had received a magnet as a gift from a friend, and it sat on my desk for weeks. First it jammed up my paperclips, so I put it on my tape player. But then I was afraid it might interfere with the recording, so I moved it to a safe place.

Several months later I looked for the magnet and could find it nowhere. I searched through all the drawers of my desk, went through bookcases, another desk, closets, kitchen cabinets and bedroom drawers, all to no avail. I knew that I had not thrown it out, and searched again over a period of time before doing the horary.



Where is the magnet?

11:21 PM EST, 29th January 1996,
Brooklyn Heights, New York: 40N42, 73W60

♌ rises, and ♀ is exalted in ♏ in the 5th house ♏ ♏: the item was primarily of sentimental value to me, and I had, after all, put it in a safe and secure place, but wherever that was remained a mystery. The ♏ in ♏, a

sign common to small objects, was in the eighth and would square ♀ and ☿. As the ☿'s last aspects were a trine to me, the Ascendant, and a trine to the ☿ after it moved into the ninth house, I felt that I would eventually find the item, but that it would take some time because of ☿.

The magnet, a possession, is represented by ☿ on the 2nd house and its ruler ☿. ☿ is in ♊, quite an apt symbol for a charged piece of metal. Placed in the 4th, the magnet was in the home, which I knew. ☿ would trine the Ascendant, another indication that the item would be found. ♀ is virtually stationary, and will turn direct the next day, also signifying recovery. The other significator of the item, ☿, is sextile the ☿ and ☿ in the 4th, further confirmation that it was in the home and could be found.

☿ and ☿ closely conjoin the IC, indicating the end of the matter, and I puzzled over their meaning for some time. Could the magnet be found near my computer or tape recorder, or even packed away near a kitchen appliance? Had I placed it with my astrology books, by my sheet music, near my tapes or records? After even more searching, these didn't seem possible. I had planned on moving in the next several years; I felt that the upheaval would unexpectedly reveal the item's location, and gave up the search.

On July 26, 1997 at around 11:25 a.m., I was looking for something else in my desk drawer when it fell off its track and spilled out onto my desk. In replacing it, I found the magnet tucked into a little plastic folder originally intended for business cards, that I had put to the back of the drawer.

The desk is located on the south wall of the apartment, near the eastern side. The drawer itself is about three feet from the floor: I would not have come up with these details from the chart.¹



¹ Can you explain it? If so, write and tell us—**Editor**

Directions in Astrology

HIDEAKI SHUSEH KOKUBU Q.H.P.

IF YOU practice astrology in Japan, you will surely wonder why your clients so often ask you about directions. Is it safe to move to the west? Will my daughter be happy if she marries the man from the northwest? Will it affect my family if I build a garage at the southeast corner of my garden? This is because the principle of geomancy has been rooted in people's minds since ancient times and most people pay attention to it.

The *on'myoji*, the ancient Japanese astrologers, were also acquainted with geomancy, which was used, along with astrology, to predict the flooding of rivers, the laying out of palaces and cities, and for carrying on daily activities, such as directional taboos and taboo days. In fact, it was used in the planning of the previous capital of Japan, Kyoto. During the Heian period (794-1185), if travel from one's home was in an ominous direction, it was customary to stay elsewhere overnight to avoid misfortune. It may be said that it is impossible to deeply understand the history and culture of Japan without studying geomancy.

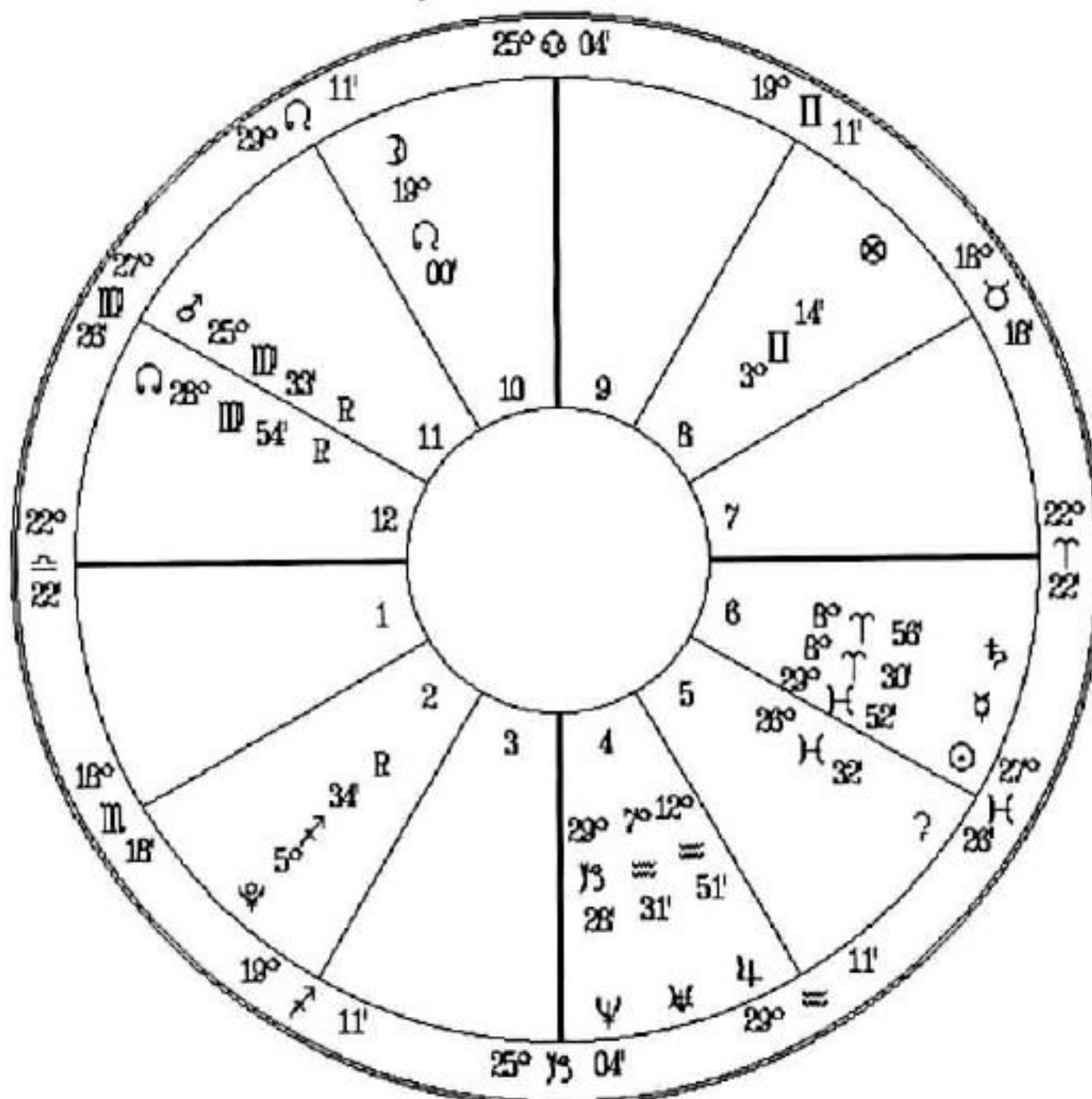
Since the late Shinjiro Sonada modified the theory of geomancy and named it *kigaku* in 1909, it has become even more popular with the people. People usually go to a practitioner of *kigaku* when they need to consult on directions, but as a consulting astrologer I have had many clients asking about directions. Of course, I advise them to go to a practitioner of *Kigaku* if the matter is difficult to answer with astrology. Nonetheless, I consider horary charts that include a question about directions to remain in my province. Here is an example.

The querent was a lovely woman, who is well represented by the ascendant-ruler ♀. She was looking for a certain person whom she had not seen for a long time. She had telephoned to him but had not been able to get through; the number was no longer in use and the person seemed to have moved away from his flat. She asked: "Can you tell me his whereabouts by means of astrology? Can I see him again?"

The quesited is represented by the ruler of the 7th house, ♂, which is in the southern sign ♎ (south by west, strictly speaking) and 33° away from the Ascendant. I thought he would be 33 miles distant and south-southwest from the querent's house. I looked up the place in an atlas. It was the very city in which the querent had his flat, not far from the house of his parents. I decided that if he was living with his parents, ♂ should have been in ♍ or ♎. ♂ was in its own term, but it doesn't have essential dignity in the whole of ♎. He must therefore be living in an

apartment house. I also decided that he had moved out of his original flat to another as his significator had retrograded back into ♄ from ♌.

Will I See Him Again?
7:37 PM JST, 20th March 1997
Tokyo: 35N44, 139E46



The querent's significator, ♀, is opposite ♂, but there is mutually separation. ♀ is approaching the natural significator of men, the ☉, but the ☉ will enter ♐ before ♀ can reach it. So she will not see him, at least for a while. There is nothing she can do about the situation for the ♄ is void of course. ♂ is in mutual reception with ♀ by sign; he must be in touch with a common friend for ♀ rules most of the 11th house. (My reason for not taking ♀ as the ruler of the 9th house – third from the 7th – was that the querent had told me the quesited had no brother.) Although there is no connection between ♀ and ♀, ♀ in mutual reception with ♄ by term while ♀ is applying to conjunct ♄. The querent probably knew his whereabouts indirectly. I told her so.

Three months after the question all of my judgments were proven to be correct. The querent accidentally discovered the quesited's address in a magazine that was edited by her friend; the quesited had moved into a flat in the neighboring town. However, she didn't phone or write to him then, and hasn't seen him at the time I write this.

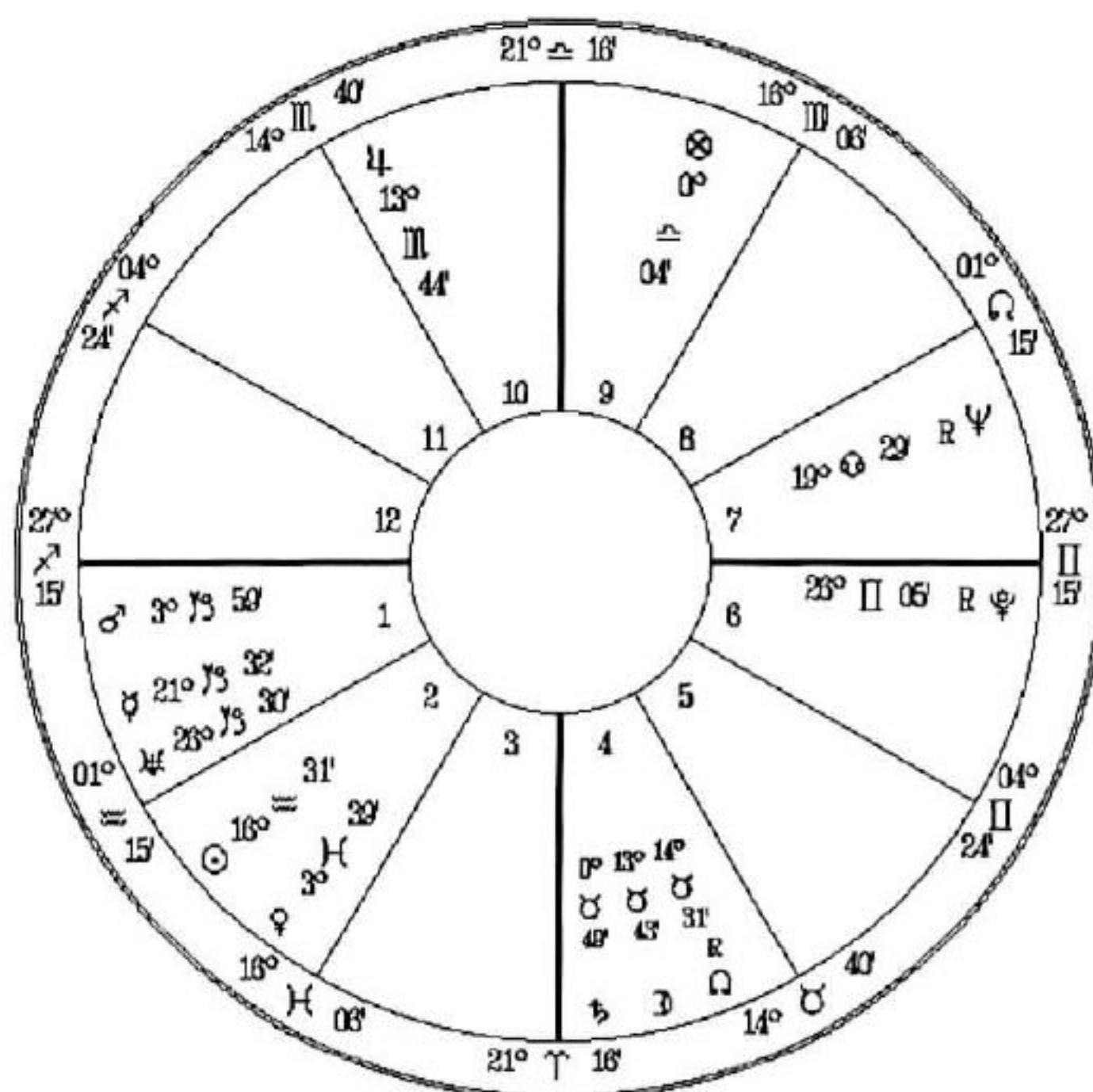


Ronald Reagan & Martin Luther King

KEN GILLMAN

RONALD REAGAN
Over the years numerous times have been proposed for the birth of the fortieth president of the United States. 37 of them, ranging from 0:46 AM to 2:55 PM were listed in Vol. IX No. 4 of *Considerations*. There was not even any agreement about which sign was rising at his birth; ♀ was the one most frequently suggested, followed by ☿, then ♄, ♀ and ♁. We now know that it is ♄.

The correct time, taken from Reagan's birth certificate and is published his authorized biography¹, is 4:16 AM CST (10:16 UT).



Ronald Wilson Reagan

4:16 AM CST (10:16 UT), 6th February 1911

Tampico, Illinois: 41N38, 89W47

♄ rises and there are close ties involving the rising degree, ♄ in the 1st house, and the setting ♄.

¹ Edmund Morris. *Dutch: A Memoir of Ronald Reagan*. Published by Random House, 1999. The time of birth is given on page 14, and the Source Notes on page 688 state that this information comes from the birth certificate

Three bodies are in the signs where tradition has it that they are exalted: the ☽, ♀ and ♂. All three are involved in tight applying aspects that involve the angles. The ☽ in ♊ applies (1' orb) to oppose the Ascendant-ruler, ♄, and ♀, the MC-ruler, in ♋ applies to sextile (orb 20') the rising ♂ in ♏. To quote the 17th Century French astrologer Jean-Baptiste Morin, *Planets that are exalted have a greater [than usual] influence for good or ill on the meaning of the house in which they are located or over which they rule ... an exalted planet strengthens any planet by its aspect.*² The close aspects these three bodies are in and their involvement with the angles (♀ is the MC-ruler, ♂ is conjunct the ASC, and the ☽ exactly opposes the ASC-ruler) point to the strength inherent in this 4:16 AM chart.

	Longitude		Antiscion	
ASC	27°15'	♊	2°44'	♏
♂	3°59'	♏	26°01'	♊
♀	26°05'	♋	3°54'	♏

The ☉, the body we automatically look to when identifying success in a chart, is prominent here. Its position in the draconic zodiac is 2°00' ♏, close to the ♂-♀-ASC interchange noted above, while its antiscion at 13°29' ♌ is ♂ ♋ at 13°44' ♌ and ♀ ♏ at 13°43' ♏.

As further confirmation that this chart prefigures someone who would rise to prominence, appropriate fixed stars are on the angles. The



RAMC for the 4:16 chart is 199°39'. At Tampico, Illinois *Altair* rose when the RAMC was 198°51' (orb 12'), and *Spica* will culminate when it is 200°07' (orb 28'). Both William Lilly and Ebenezer Sibley wrote that the *Virgin's Spike*, their name for the star we know as *Spica*, when within 5° of the MC pointed to *advancement in life and receiving great honors*. Bernadette Brady relates *Spica* to a *potential for brilliance*. Concerning *Altair*, Reinhold Ebertin interpreted it as having a ♂ character with a blend of ♀ and ♄. He

wrote that when conjunct the Ascendant, this Star of the Eagle indicates *hardiness, courage and generosity*.

This ♊-rising chart makes a lot of sense. Readers may wish to reread Shirley Coover's insightful article "Ronald Reagan is a Sagittarian" that appeared in *Considerations* XI:1.

² J. B. Morin. *Astrologia Gallica*, book 21. 1661. Trans. Richard S. Baldwin. Published as *The Morinus System of Horoscope Interpretation* by AFA.

Edmund Morris' book is worth reading. I'm not yet past the first thirty pages but have already learnt that Reagan was near-sighted, had a photographic memory and that he acquired the beginnings of a lifelong claustrophobia in July 1913, as transit ☉ was crossing his natal ♀ and opposing his ♀, when he was imprisoned inside the crumpled roof of an overturned car.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

The exact birth time is not known for the Reverend Doctor. Family sources are quoted as saying he was born "about noon" on 15th January 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia. A rectification by Jim Lewis for 11:21 AM CST has ♄ within ½° of the Ascendant, ♀ close to the IC, and ♀ exactly trine (0' orb) the Ascendant, all of which is symbolically very appropriate. Unfortunately, when this time is tested against events, using primary directions and the Life Span Revolution, it just doesn't hold up.

For Dr. King's assassination on 4th April 1968 there are six primary directions (Naibod arc) that could be exact:

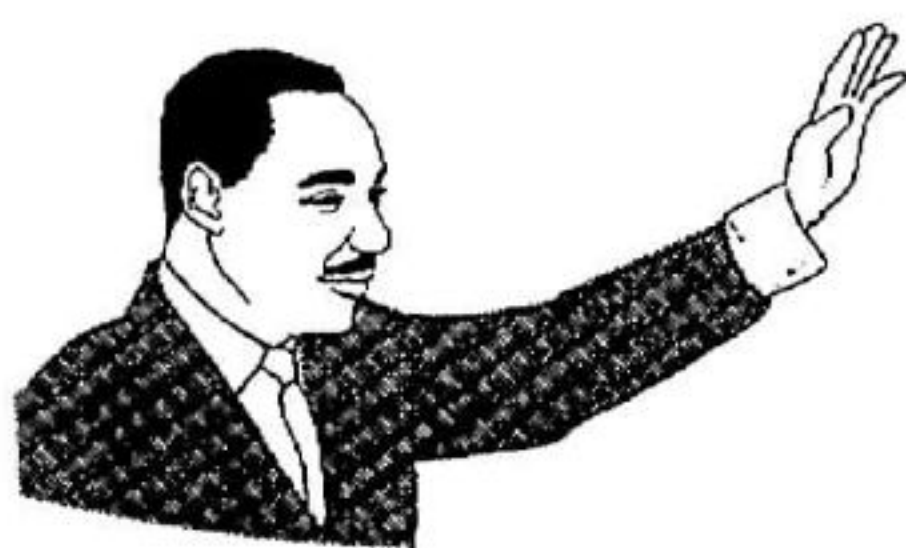
Natal chart			Primary Direction to 4/4/68
Time (CST)	MC	ASC	
11:27:26	20°29' ♎	2°51' ♏	♂d → ASC, mundo
11:29:41	21°01' ♎	3°38' ♏	♂d → ASC, zodiacal
11:54:31	26°54' ♎	12°01' ♏	♂d → DESC, zodiacal
11:57:09	27°31' ♎	12°53' ♏	♂c → IC, mundo
11:58:05	27°45' ♎	13°11' ♏	♂c → IC, zodiacal
12:00:44	28°23' ♎	14°03' ♏	♂d → DESC, mundo

Of these, I prefer the 11:29:41 time. The LSRev points to a birth at 11:39:37 AM CST (MC 23°21' ♎, ASC 7°02' ♏).

Last month, in December 1999, after four weeks of hearing testimony in a civil suit brought by Dr. King's family, a Memphis court concluded that the 1968 assassination was the result of a conspiracy involving government agencies and disgruntled Southerners. Although James Earl Ray, who died in prison last year, was convicted for the murder, the jury's decision means that they do not believe Ray fired the shot that killed Dr. King.

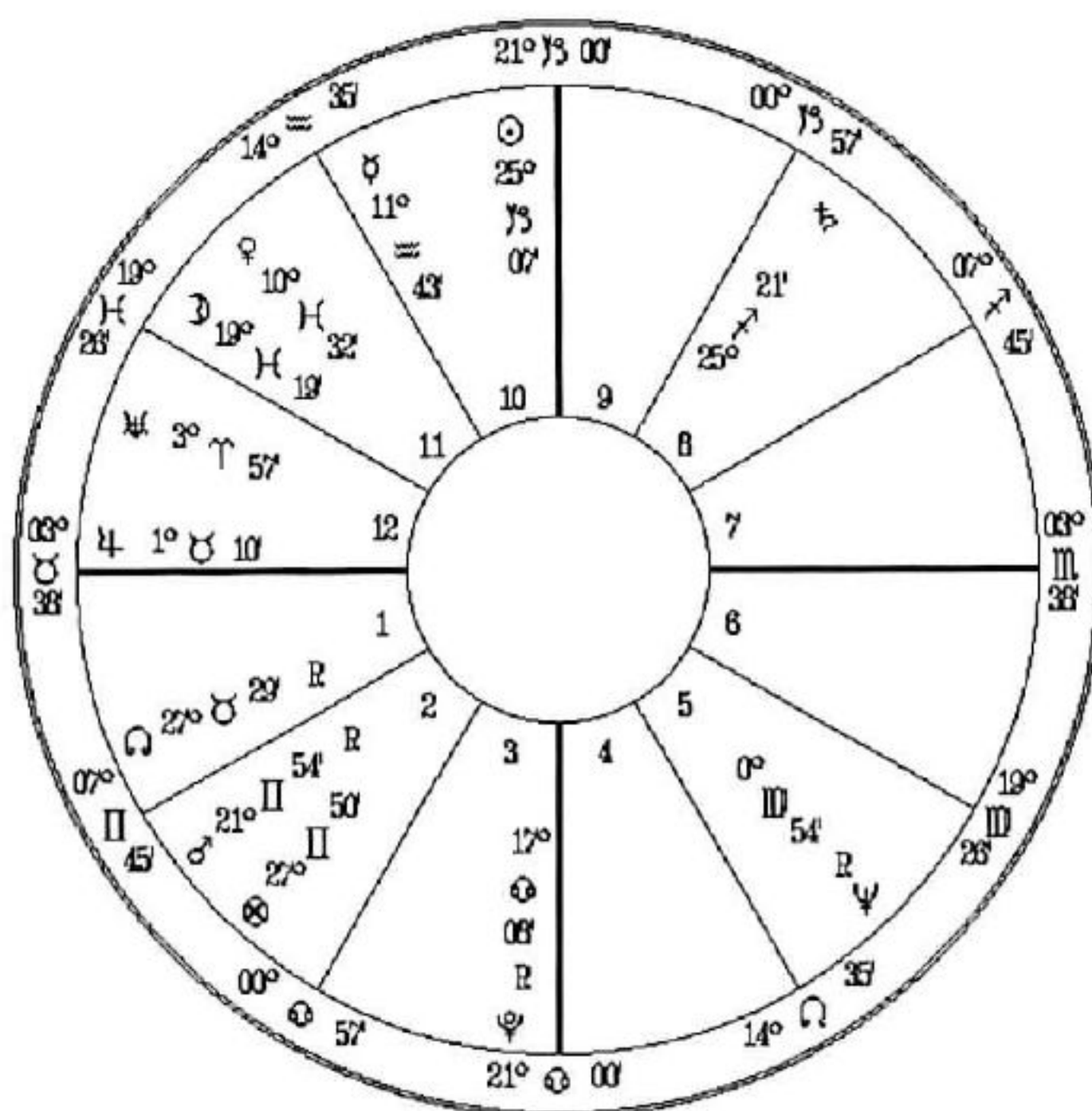
This was presented as ♀, by primary direction (zodiacal), came to conjunct the Ascendant of Dr. King's 11:29:41 chart.

I subsequently erected the chart of James Earl Ray, which has a recorded time of 3 PM (presumably a rounded time). The MC then is 5° ♏, midway between the 3°38' ♏ Ascendant of the 11:29:41 time I favor and the 7°02' ♏ of the LSRev's 11:39:37 chart.



It's tempting to split these two times and use 11:35 AM, but I strongly suspect that Dr. King's time of birth is closer to 11:30 than to 11:40. The later time takes ♄ away from the IC and ♃ away from the Ascendant.

Given my druthers, I'd like to have ♃ in the 1st house or within 5° of the rising degree – *ruler of the 8th in the 1st: premature death, the native causes this unwittingly* (Morinus); the ☉ in the 10th or within 5° of the MC – *coming to represent not so much a person as an institution or school of thought, with which he becomes identified* (Fagan); and ♄ within 5° of the IC – *battling to exceed his roots and traditions, and a final self-induced birth of a new identity for himself and his family* (Fagan).

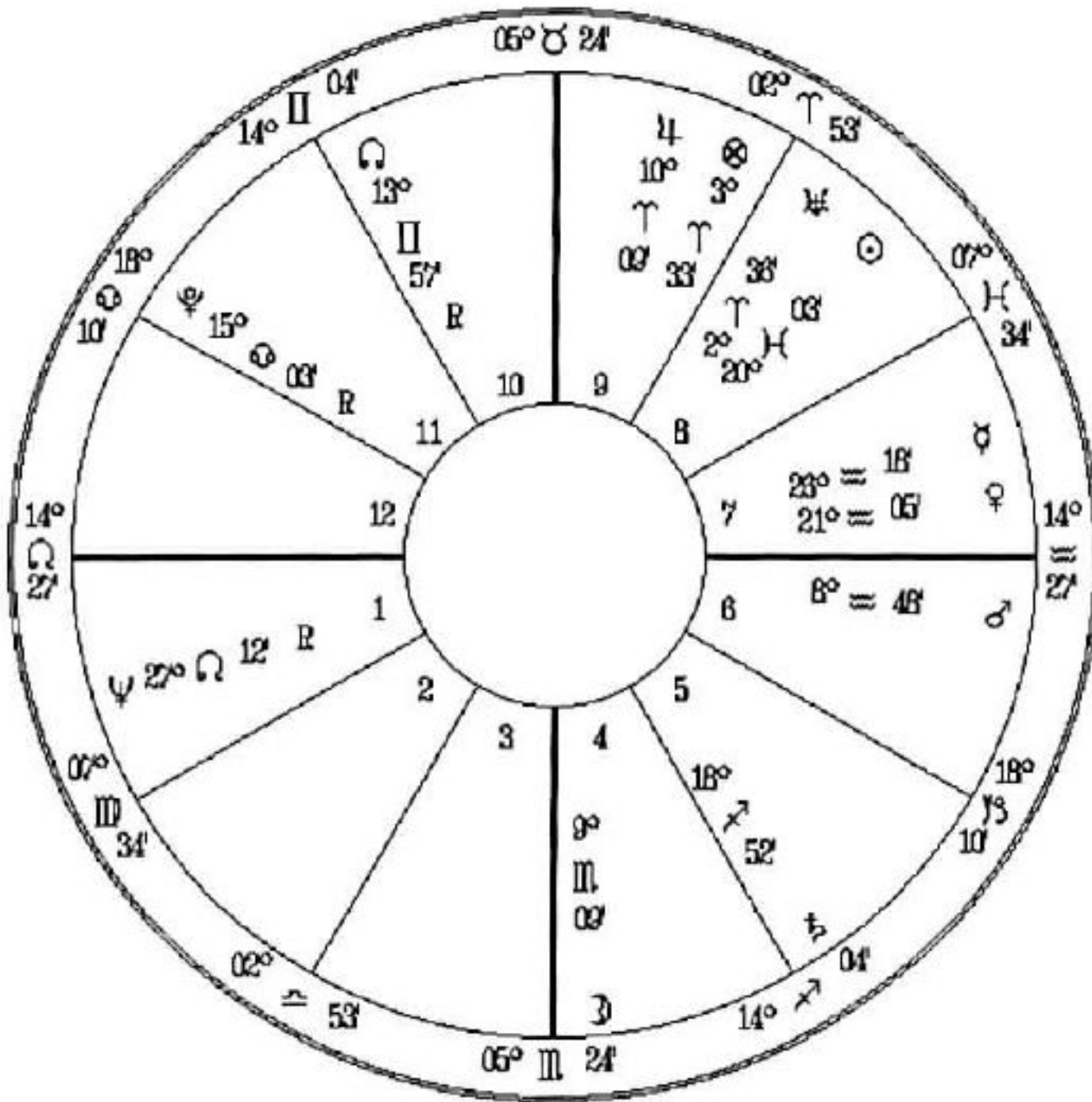


Martin Luther King Jr

11:29:41 AM CST (17:29:41 UT), 15th January 1929 (Rectified)
Atlanta, Georgia: 33N45 84W23

The 11:29:41 chart fulfills these requirements; later times take ♄ away from the IC and separates ♃ from the Ascendant. The angular ☉ and ♃, with ♃ in mutual reception to ♀ by sign, point to a man who

would become successful in whatever he did. The $\mathbb{D}$ - σ - $\mathfrak{h}$ T-cross relates to his ability to publicly ($\mathbb{D}$) represent the oppressed ($\mathbb{D}$ in $\mathcal{H} \propto 12^{\text{th}}$ cusp) and to dream of an ideal ($\mathbb{D}$ $\mathcal{H}$ 12^{th}), doing so under immense pressure from those who opposed him (7th-ruler σ ρ $\mathfrak{h}$), but it is $\mathbb{P}$ at the IC that tells of Dr. King's inherent purpose and what was pushing him to do just what he did.



James Earl Ray
3 PM CST (21:00 UT), 10th March 1928³
Alton, Illinois: 38N53 90W10

Noel Tyl has suggested that $\mathbb{P}$ in the 4th gives a personal perspective tied to early home development concerns; under pressure, there may be a 'chip on the shoulder', and defense patterns started early in life are routinized and perpetuated.⁴ Here $\mathbb{P}$ is not just in the 4th, it is conjunct the IC. $\mathbb{P}$ is at the very roots of this man. All that Tyl describes is present and much more besides. The IC represents Dr. King's father, his family, where he comes from: his race. It wasn't so much King's own early home development but that of his family, his people, his whole race that stirred him. The 4th is all we inherit from the past. The chip on Dr. King's shoulder was there because of the inhuman treatment that had been meted out on his people in the past, and the continued indignities

³ Source: birth certificate.

⁴ Noel Tyl, *Synthesis & Counseling in Astrology*. Llewellyn, 1997. Page 192.

his brothers and sisters were experiencing in 1929, the year he was born, and throughout the 1930s and the 1940s as he grew to his manhood. E has to transform what is and what has been, to make it over completely, to utterly destroy what was false in the past and to bring only that which is fruitful and honest into an entirely new world, and this radical transformation can only come about through death. This is the fruit that starts to rot away in November so that the seed it contains will bring forth newlife the following spring. Martin Luther King Jr. was trained to speak in Biblical imagery. He had a dream (D in H in 12th), strode toward freedom (♂ in II), explained that he couldn't wait (♂ II ♂ ♯), asked where do we go from here (4 rising), and went up to the mountain (♯ on the MC). He came back down and was killed by an assassin's bullet (D & ♯ in the 12th). Future generations will know him as a man who died for his beliefs (E ♂ IC, 9th-ruler ♯ ♂ ♂, 8th-house ruler in the 1st).

Dated events in Dr. King's life follow.

Date		Age	Event
1929	Jan 15	0	Birth. "Around Noon" in Atlanta, GA: 33N45, 84W23. The second of three children born to the Rev. Martin Luther King Sr. & Mrs. Alberta Christine Williams King.
1935	Sep	6.64	Enrolls at David T. Howard Elementary School.
1944	Sep	15.64	Enters Morehouse College after passing entrance examination & skipping 12th grade
1948	Feb 25	19.1123	Ordained to the Baptist ministry
1948	June	19.4	Graduates from Morehouse with BA in sociology
1948	Sep	19.64	Enters Crozer Theological Seminary as one of six black students
1951	June	22.4	Graduates from Crozer with an A average. He had been the most outstanding student, president of the senior class, and recipient of graduate fellowship
1953	June 18	24.4219	Marries Coretta Scott in Marion, Georgia
1954	May 17		Racial segregation in public schools declared unconstitutional by U.S. Supreme Court
1954	Sep 1	25.6274	Becomes full-time pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama
1955	June 5	26.3863	Receives Ph.D. in theology at Boston University
1955	Nov 17	26.8384	Daughter Yolanda Denise born in Montgomery

<i>Date</i>		<i>Age</i>	<i>Event</i>
1955	<i>December 1</i>		<i>Mrs. Rosa Parks arrested and charged with violating Montgomery city segregation code after refusing to relinquish her bus seat to a white man</i>
1955	<i>December 5</i>		<i>Montgomery Bus Boycott begins</i>
1956	Jan 26	27.0301	Arrested and charged with driving 30mph in a 25 mph zone in Montgomery. Jailed for the first time, but later released on his own recognizance
1956	Jan 30	27.0411	Bomb thrown onto porch of his home while he was away addressing a mass meeting. Wife, baby and visiting friend are not injured. Dr. King calms and disperses the angry crowd that gathers.
1956	<i>February 2</i>		<i>Suit asking that Montgomery's travel segregation laws be declared unconstitutional filed in federal district court.</i>
1956	<i>June 4</i>		<i>U.S. District Court rules racial segregation on city bus lines unconstitutional</i>
1956	<i>November 13</i>		<i>U.S. Supreme Court upholds June 4th decision of U.S. District Court</i>
1956	<i>December 21</i>		<i>Montgomery city buses integrated for the first time</i>
1957	Jan 10	27.9863	Elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference at founding meeting.
1957	Jan 27	28.0329	Unexploded bomb found on his front porch
1957	May 17	28.1671	Speech, <i>Give Us the Ballot</i> , at Lincoln Memorial
1957	<i>September</i>		<i>President Eisenhower sends military to protect black students who integrated all-white Little Rock high school</i>
1957	Oct 23	28.7699	Son Martin Luther III born
1958	Sep 3	29.6329	Arrested (for 3rd time) and charged with loitering. Charge later changed to "failure to obey an officer" and he is released on \$100 bond.
1958	Sep 17	29.6713	First book published, <i>Stride Toward freedom: The Montgomery Story</i>
1958	Sep 20	29.6795	While autographing his book in Harlem, stabbed in chest by Izola Curry
1959	Feb 2	30.0493	To India at invitation of Prime Minister Nehru
1959	Mar 10	30.1479	Returns from month in India studying Gandhi's techniques of nonviolence
1959	Nov 29	30.8712	Resigns as pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church

<i>Date</i>		<i>Age</i>	<i>Event</i>
1960	Jan 24	31.0247	Becomes co-pastor, with his father, of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta
1960	<i>February 1</i>		<i>Students in Greensboro, NC, stage the first lunch-counter sit-ins</i>
1960	Feb 17	31.0904	Warrant for his arrest charging perjury in filing his 1956 and 1958 Alabama state taxes
1960	May 28	31.3671	Acquitted of perjury charge by all-white jury.
1960	Oct 19	31.7616	With 51 others, arrested in Atlanta for participating in a sit-in. Jailed for violating state's trespass law.
1960	Oct 22	31.7699	Atlanta trespass charges dropped and all released except for MLK, who is held for a traffic violation To County Jail and then to State Prison.
1960	Oct 27	31.7836	Released from prison after Bobby Kennedy intervened
1961	Jan 30	32.0411	Third child, Dexter Scott, born in Atlanta
1961	<i>May 4</i>		<i>Freedom Riders, organized to integrate interstate buses, leave DC on a Greyhound bus</i>
1961	<i>May 14</i>		<i>Freedom Riders' bus bombed and burnt near Anniston, Alabama. Later they were attacked in Birmingham.</i>
1961	<i>May 20</i>		<i>New group of Freedom Riders assaulted in Montgomery</i>
1961	Dec 16	32.9178	At Albany demonstration, arrested for obstructing sidewalk and parading without license
1962	Feb 27	33.1178	Convicted of leading Albany march
1962	July 1	33.4575	At prayer vigil, arrested with failure to obey police officer, obstructing sidewalk and disorderly conduct.
1962	Oct 16	33.7507	Meets President Kennedy at the White House
1963	Mar 28	34.1973	Fourth child, Bernice Albertine, born
1963	Apr 3	34.2137	Opens Birmingham campaign to protest segregation
1963	Apr 12	34.2384	He and 54 other demonstrators jailed
1963	Apr 16	34.2493	Writes <i>Letter From Birmingham Jail</i> .
1963	<i>May 2</i>		<i>Birmingham police ordered to use dogs and fire hoses on demonstrators</i>
1963	<i>May 20</i>		<i>Birmingham's segregation ordinances ruled unconstitutional by U.S. Supreme Court</i>
1963	<i>June 12</i>		<i>Assassination of NAACP leader Medgar Evers</i>
1963	Aug 28	34.6164	Speech, <i>I Have a Dream</i> , to 250,000 at Lincoln Memorial as part of The March on Washington
1963	Sep	34.6658	Fourth book, <i>Strength to Love</i> , published

<i>Date</i>		<i>Age</i>	<i>Event</i>
1963	<i>September 15</i>		<i>Baptist Sunday School in Birmingham bombed four children killed, 21 injured.</i>
1963	<i>November 22</i>		<i>President John F. Kennedy assassinated</i>
1964	June 11	35.4055	Part of sit-in at exclusive Florida restaurant. Arrested for 12th time, charged with violating "unwanted guest law."
1964	June	35.42	Fifth book, <i>Why We Can't Wait</i> , published
1964	June	35.42	Addresses 75,000 at Chicago civil rights rally
1964	<i>June 21</i>		<i>Three civil rights workers missing in Philadelphia, Miss.</i>
1964	July 2	35.4630	Present as President Johnson signs Civil Rights Act
1964	<i>July 18-23</i>		<i>Race riots in Harlem</i>
1964	<i>August 4</i>		<i>FBI find buried bodies of missing civil rights workers</i>
1964	Sep 18	35.6767	Audience with the Pope
1964	Dec 10	35.9041	Receives Nobel Peace Prize
1965	<i>February 21</i>		<i>Malcolm X assassinated in Harlem</i>
1965	<i>March 7</i>		<i>Demonstrators beaten by state troopers when attempting to cross a bridge during Montgomery to Selma march</i>
1965	<i>March 9</i>		<i>White civil rights worker beaten to death by 4 whites in Selma</i>
1965	<i>March 21-25</i>		<i>Protected by federal troops, 28,000 march from Selma to Montgomery</i>
1965	Mar 25	36.1890	Addresses Selma marchers at Alabama State Capital
1965	<i>August 6</i>		<i>President Johnson signs Voting Rights Act</i>
1965	Aug-Sep	36.6	Leading voter registration campaigns in Alabama
1965	<i>August 11-16</i>		<i>Riots in Los Angeles' Watts district, 35 killed</i>
1966	Feb	37.0822	Moves into an inner city Chicago neighborhood
1966	June 6	37.3890	Continues "March Against Fear" from Memphis to Jackson, Miss., begun by assassinated activist James Meredith
1966	July 10	37.4822	Launches campaign to integrate Chicago housing
1966	Aug 5	37.5534	Stoned by angry whites while leading Chicago march
1967	Jan	38.0	Completes 6th book, <i>Where Do We Go From Here?</i>
1967	<i>July 12-17</i>		<i>Riots in Newark, NJ. 23 killed, 725 injured</i>
1967	<i>July 23-30</i>		<i>The worst race riots of the century in Detroit. 43 die, 324 injured.</i>
1967	July 26	38.5260	Calls for riots to end, saying they are "ineffective and damaging to the civil rights cause..."

<i>Date</i>		<i>Age</i>	<i>Event</i>
1967	Oct 30	38.7890	U.S. Supreme Court upholds his contempt-of-court conviction of 1963. Jailed for 4 days.
1967	Nov 27	38.8658	Announces Poor People's Campaign.
1968	Mar 28	39.2000	Leads 6,000 civil rights protesters on march supporting Memphis sanitation workers' strike. Ends in violence.
1968	Apr 3	39.2164	Speech, <i>I've Been to the Mountaintop</i> , at Memphis Masonic Temple
1968	Apr 4	39.2192	Assassinated: shot in the neck by sniper as he stood talking on Memphis motel balcony. Died in St. Joseph's Hospital.
1981	<i>January 15</i>		<i>March on Washington D.C. by 100,000 to rally for holiday on anniversary of Dr. King's birth</i>
1983	<i>November 2</i>		<i>President Ronald Reagan signs bill designating the third Monday of January as a National Holiday in commemoration of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.</i>
1986	<i>January 20</i>		<i>First national observance of King Day</i>

Source: *Ebony*, Vol. XLI, No. 3. January 1986.

Astrology as Consciousness

PAUL ROBINSON

THIS ARTICLE presents a new astrological model that integrates astrology by using the number twelve as its base. Insights from this new model give astrology more clarity, depth and power. The model then links astrology with other metaphysical systems. This results in an expanded understanding of astrology's essential core.

Astrology uses four basic building blocks. They are as follows: astrological *Houses*, which are symbolic of major areas of life such as possessions, family, and career; the *Signs* of the zodiac, which act as filters that condition the planetary energies; the *Planets*, including our ☉ and ☾, which act as energy sources; and the *Aspects*, the angles between planets, that create dynamic tensions between them.

There are twelve astrological houses and twelve signs of the zodiac. Each house relates to one sign of the zodiac. For example, the 1st house relates to the first sign of the zodiac which is ♈. A planet is also associated with a particular house and sign; in this case ☿. Astrologers say that ☿ "rules" ♈ and the 1st house. Because only ten planets are used in as-

trology, two planets each rule two houses and two zodiac signs. Aspects are not included in this system of rulership. The following model proposes to strengthen this system by using twelve planets and by including the aspects.

First, adding two more planets solves the problem of ten planets ruling twelve houses and twelve signs. The idea that a newly discovered planetoid called ♄ rules ♍ and the 6th house is not new. Several astrologers including Barbara Hand Clow, in her book *Chiron: Rainbow Bridge Between the Inner and Outer Planets*, have suggested this. I agree. Clew also suggests that an as-yet undiscovered planet called Nibiru rules the 7th house and ♊. Nibiru, which is described in some detail in Zecharia Sitchin's book *The Twelfth Planet*, was the "planet of crossing" to the Sumerians. Clew may be correct about Nibiru, but only time will tell. The important point is not which planet rules ♍ and ♊, but that each house and sign has only one planetary ruler.

The second problem, integrating the Aspects into this system of rulership, is more interesting. The harmonic series has been recognized as a partial answer to this puzzle. Derived by dividing the 360° circle by whole numbers from 1 to 12, this series includes all of the "major" aspects. These are:

♌	conjunction	$360^\circ \div 1 = 360^\circ = 0^\circ$
♍	opposition	$360^\circ \div 2 = 180^\circ$
♎	trine	$360^\circ \div 3 = 120^\circ$
♏	square	$360^\circ \div 4 = 90^\circ$
♐	sextile	$360^\circ \div 6 = 60^\circ$

The harmonic series also includes two minor aspects, the semi-square ($360^\circ \div 8 = 45^\circ$) and the semi-sextile ($360^\circ \div 12 = 30^\circ$). The problem with the harmonic series has been that two other minor, but well recognized, aspects are not a part of the series. These two aspects are the 135° sesquiquadrate and the 150° quincunx. That these two well-recognized aspects are not part of the harmonic series has limited its use in integrating the aspects into the twelve house-sign-planet rulership system. Consequently, aspect interpretation is one of the most confused areas in astrology today. I see, however, a simple solution that not only solves this problem but which also explains why major aspects are so powerful.

Borrowing a concept from psychology called "projection" a new series of aspects are derived. This is how it works. Planets are sources of energy that can be viewed as our sub-personalities. Sometimes, we project these sub-personalities onto another person. We use the other person like a mirror. From that mirror, all the other planets in our natal chart are seen from a perspective directly opposite the original position. Aspects from this new perspective are the supplementary angles of those from the planet's original position. This suggests that the supplementary angles of the twelve harmonic aspects are also aspects. I call them *Mirror Aspects*. It is a new concept that is very useful.

Mirror aspects solve the problem of including the sesquiquadrate and quincunx in the harmonic series. The sesquiquadrate is the supplementary angle and therefore the mirror aspect of the semi-square, the 8th harmonic aspect ($135^\circ + 45^\circ = 180^\circ$). I abbreviate sesquiquadrate to 3M. Likewise, the quincunx is the mirror aspect of the semi-sextile, the 12th harmonic aspect ($150^\circ + 30^\circ = 180^\circ$). The quincunx is abbreviated 12M. Including these two aspects in the harmonic series is interesting, but there is more. Two other minor aspects are also mirror aspects. The tridecile (108°) is the mirror aspect of the 5th harmonic quintile (72°) and the biquintile (144°) is the mirror aspect of the 10th harmonic decile (36°). The existing nomenclature is confusing but highlights close links between the 5th and 10th harmonics. The mirror aspect series is in fact not as foreign as it first appears. There are only three entirely new aspects: the $128^\circ 34'$ (7M), the 140° (9M), and the $141^\circ 16'$ (11M).

Perhaps even more interesting is that mirror aspects explain the importance and strength of the "major" aspects. Each major aspect is also a mirror aspect. They are actually double aspects! As such they are at least twice as strong as the minor aspects. The conjunction and opposition are each other's mirror aspects ($0^\circ + 180^\circ = 180^\circ$), as are the trine and sextile ($120^\circ + 60^\circ = 180^\circ$). The square is unique because it is its own mirror aspect, ($90^\circ + 90^\circ = 180^\circ$). There is no escaping the challenge of the square by projecting it onto another person.

Mirror aspects are an important new concept. They strongly suggest that all aspects fit the harmonic series. This means aspects can be integrated into the existing house-sign-planet rulership system based on the number 12. Mirror aspects also help explain the strength of major versus minor aspects. Other implications of mirror aspects are unfortunately beyond the scope of this article. Inclusion of the aspects into the rulership system precipitates a much clearer understanding of the aspects themselves. But there is more. Let's reach outside of astrology and link an ancient metaphysical system to this model. This will add a further layer of clarity, and lead one step further to the model's essential core.

CHAKRAS have been recognized and studied for thousands of years. Astrologers have long been attracted to them. Integrating chakras into astrology has been difficult because seven chakras don't easily fit with twelve houses, signs, planets and aspects. Barbara Marciniak in *Earth, Pleiadian Keys to the Living Library* speaks of twelve chakras, in and beyond the body. Now 12 is an interesting number, isn't it? The first seven chakras in the body are unchanged. Marciniak suggests five new chakras exist above the body: the 8th is one foot above the crown of the head, the 9th is at the limits of the earth's atmosphere, the 10th is in the solar system, the 11th is galactic, and the 12th is universal. The fit between these twelve chakras and the twelve houses, signs, planets and aspects is excellent. It's quite simple; each chakra is

“natural” with its corresponding astrological components. For example, the 1st chakra, also called the root chakra located at the base of the spine, is natural with the 1st house, ♄, ♂, and the ♈. But it’s not quite that simple.

People working with human energy fields are finding other energy centers that may also be chakras. These are “mirror chakras”, related to the mirror aspects. They are located between the knees (5M), between the ankles (7M), directly below the feet (8M) and in the center of the earth (9M). Perhaps the 10th, 11th, and 12th chakras are also located in pairs above and below the center of the solar system, the galactic core, and paradise. This suggests that mirror aspects may have slightly different flavors than their original harmonic aspect. For example, the 5th harmonic quintile relates to “talking our talk” (throat chakra) whereas the 5M is about “walking our walk” (chakra between the knees). It also suggests that the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th chakras are “major” chakras.

Adding chakras to this model of twelve is exciting because, by linking astrology to another metaphysical system, a clearer understanding of all the astrological components emerge. It is beyond the scope of this brief article to give a detailed analysis. It is, however, useful to touch on a few points that suggest further examination may be fruitful. The third chakra at the solar plexus is associated with personal power. An easy fit to ♀ and ♀ is not yet apparent, but the third harmonic aspect is interesting. Perhaps trines contribute self-confidence. Conversely it may suggest power struggles. Is this why serial killers often feature grand trines natively? The seventh or crown chakra is associated with spiritual self-realization. This suggests a strong spiritual orientation to ♄ that certainly enriches and deepens our current image of ♄ as somewhat of a doormat. The ninth chakra on the limits of earth’s atmosphere reminds me of the profound impact the first pictures of earth from space had on human consciousness. This suggests ♄ and ♃ have deep humanitarian and ecological dimensions.

IS IT possible to integrate other systems into this model of twelve? The seven *Colors* of the rainbow have traditionally been associated with the seven chakras. Using metallic colors to symbolize the higher chakras works nicely. Bronze fits the 8th, what with ♄’s obvious Greek connection. Copper fits the 9th because exposure to the earth’s atmosphere oxidizes copper into a verdant green, symbolic of earth’s rebirth. The 10th is clearly silver, dare I mention the gray business suits of ♄ and ♃? The 11th is special. My eccentric self immediately choose electric fluorescent pink. The 12th, the highest manifestation, can only be gold. Something is still missing from this model: something that both unites and exposes its essential core.

As you may have guessed from the title, the twelve parts of this model are actually *Levels of Consciousness*. By this I mean the conscious

awareness of different levels of reality, of different vibration frequencies. Each house, sign, planet, aspect, chakra and color is one side of a single crystal. Each reflects and illuminates one facet of that crystal, that level of consciousness. Let's very briefly outline these twelve levels of consciousness.

Levels one to six focus on ego, the self.

- ❑ *One* is core personal identity and life energy. Ego individuates from the collective consciousness.
- ❑ *Two* is ego entering the physical body and relating with the material world.
- ❑ *Three* is the instinctual, animal level of reactive mind. Innocent curiosity blossoms into social interaction.
- ❑ *Four*, the gateway to higher consciousness, is our psychological roots. Emotional self-expression leads to the wonderment of love.
- ❑ *Five* is creative self-expression. The essential truth of the individual emerges.
- ❑ *Six* involves critical analytical thought, often directed inward. This is intellectual self-expression, both rational and non-rational.

Levels seven to twelve involve the transcendence of self and reunion with spirit.

- ❑ *Seven* introduces self to the magical, paradoxical and often chaotic world of spirit.
- ❑ *Eight* digs to our deepest depths, going beyond the body into psychic levels of awareness. Spiritual transformation, death of ego, results.
- ❑ *Nine* involves the spiritualized self-serving humanity and mother Gaia. Our higher mind finally has its chance to shine. The focus can be humanitarian or ecological, but its essence is service.
- ❑ *Ten* is a bit of a letdown. Patience and faith slowly mature into wisdom, but not without the excruciating heartache of separation from source.
- ❑ *Eleven* is the source and destiny for pure spiritual energy. Eccentric and detached, it is saturated with impersonal love for all.
- ❑ *Twelve* is the collective consciousness. This is the karmic level where spiritual mind plans and prepares to implant into pure identity on the first level of consciousness.

This model does not come with a set of instructions. Find your own way to use it to further your goals. I believe that conscious awareness of a challenge is the first step in moving beyond it. By working from my natal chart and watching transits I am learning what those challenges and levels of consciousness feel like. They all have their pain and elation. Dare to dance with the spirit as it spins out endlessly interesting variations of consciousness!

Books Considered

You're Not a Person – Just a Birth Chart

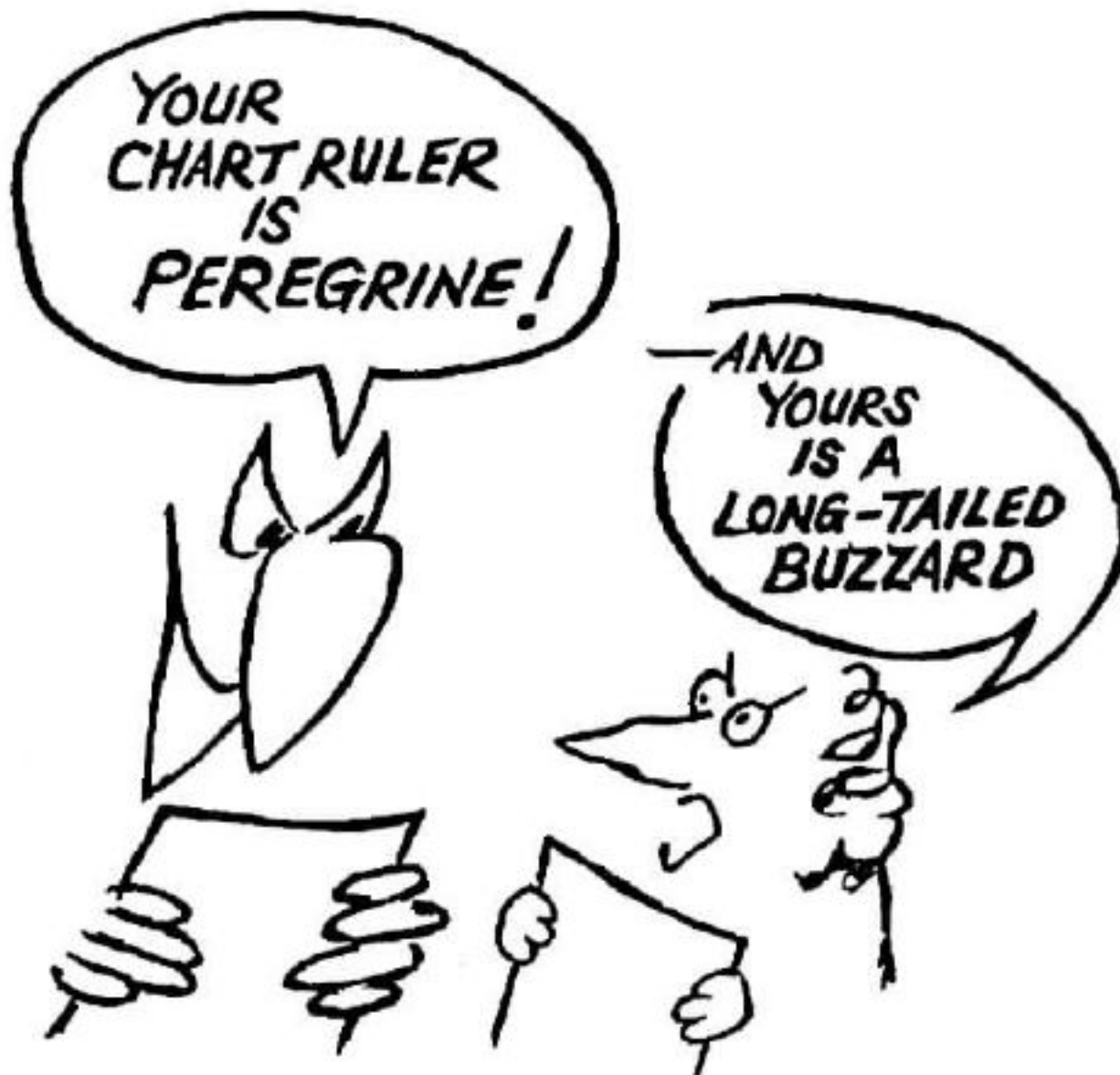
Astrological cartoon humor by Paul F. Newman. 1999

The Wessex Astrologer

P. O. Box 2751, Bournemouth BH6 3ZJ, England

e-mail: WessexAstrologer@mcmail.com

92 pages, paper.
£15 plus postage.
ISBN 1902405072



Over the years Paul F. Newman's cartoons have appeared in astrological publications in England, Canada and the US. In the process he has acquired an enthusiastic following. His are the type of cartoons that shown to non-astrologers receive

those mystified, blank stares and polite smiles we are all so familiar with. That's certainly not how Paul's astrology groupies view them; it's a seriously sad siderealist that his crazy humor doesn't crack up. Good astro-humorists are a rare breed, an endangered species, this is one we should all support and continue to enjoy. Buy this! —Ken Gillman

Astrology: A Lost Art

by John A. Rich. 1999

available from the author, tel: (516) 547-1622

e-mail: JrichSpiri@aol.com

31 pages. No price stated

A short pamphlet by a Catholic priest that is divided into three sections: Spirituality & Astrology; the Beginnings of Astrology; and Astrology & the Bible. The author describes how, on returning to the US after nineteen years of missionary work in the Philippines, he discovered astrology and how it has helped him continue his personal journey toward human and spiritual maturity in his continuing discovery of who it

is he was created to be by God. Those members of Christian churches who may sometimes wonder if their involvement with astrology brings conflicts with the teachings of their religion, will find the contents of this work of great value, especially when faced with dissenting frowns from fellow churchgoers.

—Ken Gillman

Cycles of the Century

By Shelagh Kendal. 1999

Ptolemy Press

200 Rideau Terrace, Ottawa K1M 0Z3, Canada

e-mail: skendal@travel-net.com

147 pages, paper. \$15 US plus \$3 postage.

ISBN: 0-9686309-0-1

Shelagh Kendal has been a frequent contributor to *Considerations*, usually writing about planetary cycles. Another insightful article from her keyboard graces the current issue.

Her new book covers the last three-quarters of the 20th century, starting by covering personal age cycles, in which she delineates the generic effect at various ages of aspects from transiting ♃, ♄, ♀, ♁ and the Nodes. She explains why people tend to have certain experiences at particular ages. Although not new, this section is very well done.

She then moves breaks new ground by evaluating each of the years from 1927 to 1999, discussing the major aspects prevalent at the birth of persons born in these years and tying these to what was happening in the world at the time. Using major evolutionary cycles and slow-moving transits, she then identifies specific years in the future of those born in a particular year, those that are likely to herald significant changes in the individual's life.

Next, in a section entitled "Generations," Shelagh explains the planetary signifiers of the Roaring 20's, the Depressing 30's, Fighting 40's, Frantic 50's, Protesting 60's, Disillusioned 70's, Excessive 80's and the Exposing 90's, with insightful essays on ♄, ♀ and ♁ as they moved through each of the signs during the past century.

Finally, Shelagh deals with the major evolutionary conjunctions that have been affecting all of us. She begins with ♀ ♂ ♄ of 1891-93 and then discusses the two major conjunctions of the 20th century, ♁ ♂ ♄ of 1963-65 and ♁ ♂ ♀ of 1993. Shelagh continues with evaluating the affect of the three ♄-♄ conjunctions of 1914, 1947 and 1942; the three ♄-♀ conjunctions of 1917, 1952 and 1989; and the ♄-♁ conjunctions of 1942 and 1988. She ends by comparing the spectacular eclipse of 1962, when all personal planets were in the same sign, against the recent August 1999 eclipse, with its fixed cross and waxing squares.

In the hands of virtually any other writer this extensive astro-historical analysis would have created a book at least four times as huge as the one Shelagh Kendal provides. In the author's hands, her succinct writing style and thorough understanding of her subject enable her to produce a book that is relatively brief and inexpensive but which is likely to be of immense value to anyone studying mundane cycles and how these affect individuals and whole generations.

Highly recommended.

—Ken Gillman



"PSST...WANNA BUY A BABYLONIAN BOOK?"

*Ancient Whispers from Chaldea:
Making Babylonian astrology work for you.*
by Arthyr W. Chadbourne. 1999
Intelligenesis, Seal Beach, California,
ISBN 0-9668966-3-7, 524 pages, \$19.95.

"The astrological upgrade for the new millennium," shouts the back cover. Arthyr W. Chadbourne is certainly to be congratulated for his muscular marketing, but one hopes that most astrologers will be able to see through its hype immediately.

It shouldn't be hard. The glittering production soon turns out to be a pathetic waffle. While the stentorian back cover promises "techniques that made the Chaldean culture the masters of the heavenly oracle," the introduction squeaks timidly: "The primary purpose of this work is to present a model of astrology that may correspond to the thinking of the Chaldean culture ... and provide you with the basic concepts of which the ancient astrologers were probably aware."

If any reader misses that cute disclaimer, the following pages contain enough revealing detail to repel even the most tolerant. Greeks are "Grecian", and one famous Grecian is "Pythagorus", so spelled through the entire tome; planets move in the "elliptic belt"; some Europeans speak "romantic languages"; the Metonic cycle

is called "Nodal", and a senseless definition of it is offered; our ancestors held "ancestral beliefs"; the author furthermore does not seem to appreciate the difference between mathematics and bean-counting. I am skipping over mere faulty grammar, incomplete phrases, and garbled explanations.

Not everything is bad. Some technical ideas are promising, notably that of the sunset chart (for the Sun-Descendant conjunction prior to birth) and "rogression", a method of rotating the sunset chart relative to itself or to the natal map at the rate of five degrees for one year. Even here, however, the author's inability to explain himself clearly detracts from his credibility.

There is a clever section with delineations for successive years of birth in the 20th century, based on events and on the main preoccupations of people at the time and place of a native's birth. This is not unlike Shelagh Kendal's approach in her recent book (also reviewed in this issue of *Considerations*), although her work is the more thorough and convincing.

The worst feature of *Ancient Whispers* is its flaky claim to be connected with Chaldean astrology. Chadbourne could have said, in effect, "I was thinking about Babylon and ancient Egypt, and was inspired to come up with these techniques." That would have been honest and interesting. As it is, he gives the impression of having laid an immense marketing egg. Let's hope for his sake that it is golden.

What especially disturbs is that this showcase of illiteracy comes with recommendations from eminent astrologers. The review copy is accompanied by a letter from Noel Tyl, praising among other qualities its "expertly written text" and its "beautiful systematization." Marion March calls it "best of all, ... a reference to history and our astrological past." However well meant, such indiscriminate back-scratching only harms astrology.

—Axel Harvey

Editor's Note

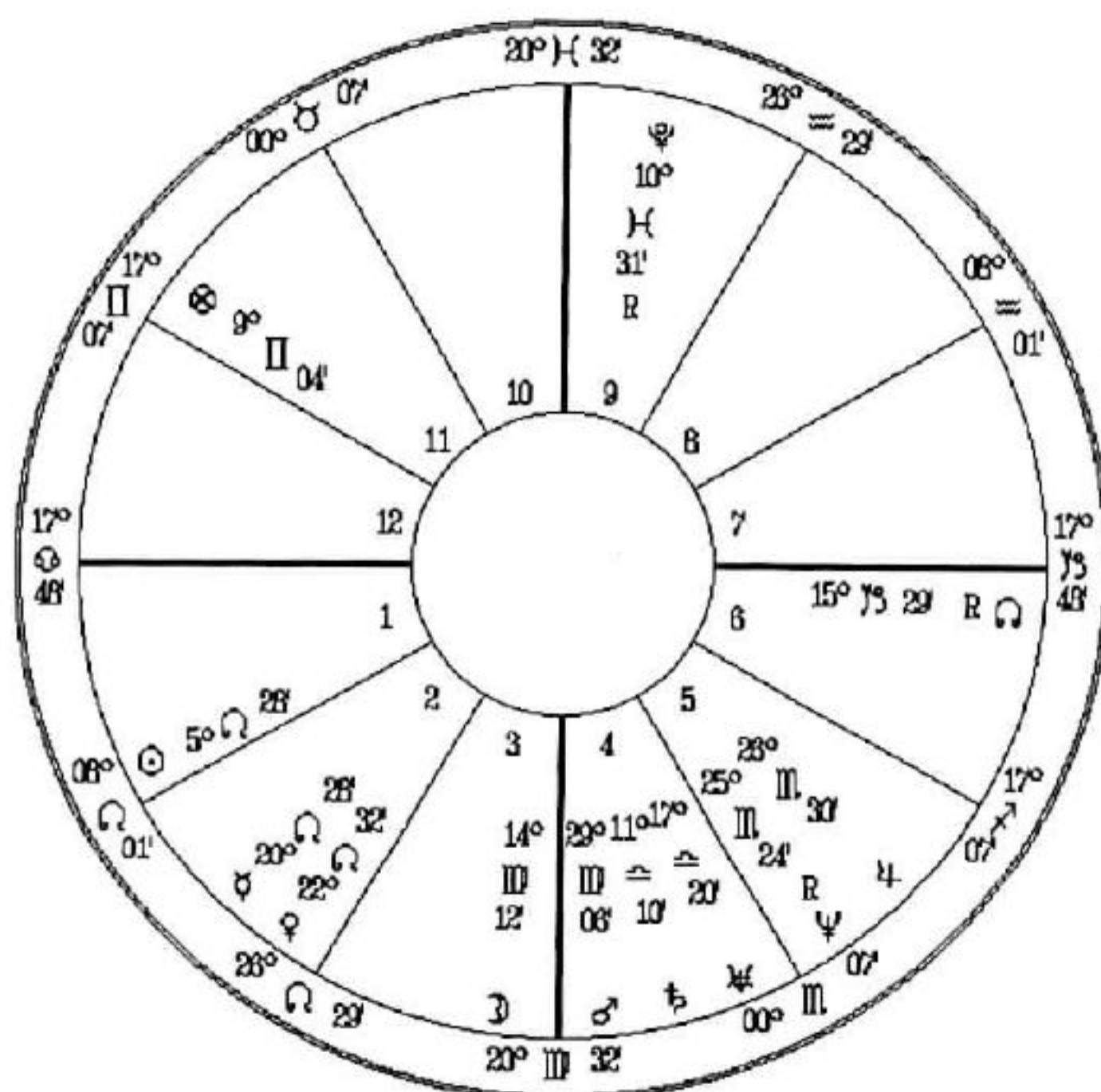
In the next issue of *Considerations* we will be including a scholarly article by Rumen Kolev entitled "Astrological Prognosis in Babylon". This describes the actual predictive methods of Chaldean astrologers, as identified by nine Babylonian horoscopes from the 5th to 2nd centuries BC. It contains nothing in common with the above book.



Data Etcetera

Alexis de Tocqueville

French historian and political scientist, born Paris, 3 AM LAT on 29th July 1805 (source: recently discovered birth certificate, due to the endeavors of Nicole Girard). A hereditary count, he became a lawyer and in 1831 went to the USA (arriving 11th May) to report on the prison system. On his return he published a penetrating political study, *De la Démocratie en Amérique* (1835, Democracy in America), which gave him a European reputation. He is ranked among the greatest minds of his generation. He became a member of the Chamber of Deputies in 1839, and in 1849 was vice-president of the Assembly and briefly minister of foreign affairs. After Louis Napoleon's coup he retired to his estate, where he wrote the first volume of *L'Ancien Régime et la Révolution* (1856, The Old Regime and the Revolution). He died in Cannes at 7 PM on the 10th May 1859 before it could be completed.



Baron Alexis de Tocqueville

(Charles Henri Maurice Clérel)

3 AM LAT 29th July 1805, Paris: 48N50 2E20

☿ ☐ As, ☽ ☐ E, ♃ ☐ ♀, ☿ ☐ ♀

"America, then, exhibits in her social state an extraordinary phenomenon. Men are there seen on a greater equality in point of fortune and intellect, or, in other words, more equal in strength, than in any other country in the world, or in any age of which history has preserved the remembrance.

The political consequences of such a social condition as this are easily deductible.

It is impossible to believe that equality will not eventually find its way into the political world, as it does everywhere else. To conceive of men remaining forever unequal upon a single point, yet equal on all others, is impossible; they must come in the end to be equal upon all.

Now, I know of only two methods of establishing equality in the political world; rights must be given to every citizen, or none at all to anyone. For nations which are arrived at the same stage of social existence as the Anglo-Americans, it is, therefore, very difficult to discover a medium between the sovereignty of all and the absolute power of one man: and it would be vain to deny the social condition which I have been describing is just as liable to one of these consequences as to the other.

There is, in fact, a manly and lawful passion for equality that unites men to with all to be powerful and honored. This passion tends to elevate to the rank of the great; but there exists also in the human heart a depraved taste for equality which impels the weak to attempt to lower the powerful to their own level and reduces men to prefer equality in slavery to inequality with freedom. Not that those nations whose social condition is democratic naturally despise liberty; on the contrary, they have an instinctive love of it. But liberty is not the chief and constant object of their desires; equality is their idol; they make rapid and sudden efforts to obtain liberty and, if they miss their aim, resign themselves to their disappointment; but nothing can satisfy them without equality, and they would rather perish than lose it."¹



¹ Tocqueville, Alexis de. "Democracy in America," *The Recollections of Alexis de Tocqueville*. Translated by Reeve and edited by G. P. Mayer. London: Harvill, 1948.

Let's Consider

NICOLE GIRARD in a letter dated 21st August 1999 wrote giving a list of dates on each of which she predicted there would be major earthquakes. In the same letter she explained that she based these predictions on her reading of Ptolemy and her comparison of the astrological chart of the solar eclipse of 11th August with that of the 17th August earthquake at Izmit, Turkey.

In deciding the nature of events that can be related to an eclipse, the 2nd century master Claudius Ptolemy placed great importance on both the zodiacal sign in which the eclipse occurred and also the planet that was closest to the eclipse, giving rulership over the eclipse to this planet. Ptolemy also related the degree of the eclipse to the charts of the different countries in which it was visible.

On examining the chart of the August 11th eclipse, Madame Girard noted that although the σ - h opposition, which squares the $18^\circ 21' \Omega$ eclipse from $16^\circ 50' \text{m}$ to $16^\circ 52' \text{O}$, and is close to the horizon at Izmut, is the closest aspect to the eclipse, the X opposition from $14^\circ 40' \approx$ should be considered a stronger aspect. There is a clear ranking of aspects, with the conjunction and opposition always to be considered of greater strength than a square. $\sigma \text{ } \rho \text{ } \text{h}$ cannot be ignored, but it is best interpreted as occurring at the midpoint of the Eclipse- X opposition and affecting how this will manifest.

Nicole decided that X was the ruler of the August 11th eclipse and predicted that future major earthquakes would occur when the $\odot$ and X formed aspects by transit. In August she sent the following set of earthquake predictions (these are listed in the first three columns of the following table), to which I have added in the right-hand column the associated dates of major earthquakes.

$\odot$ - X aspect	Exact date 1999-2000	Suggested range	Observed earthquake
ρ	7 th August	28/7 – 18/8	Turkey, 17 th August
π	7 th September	--	Athens, 7 th September
$\square$	21 st September	--	Taiwan, 21 st September
Δ	6 th October	30/9 – 13/10	Mexico, 30 th September Egypt, 12 th October
$\square$	5 th November	29/10 – 12/11	Taiwan, 1 st November Turkey, 12 th November
$*$	6 th December	3/12 – 10/12	Alaska, 6 th December
$\cdot$	6 th January	--	Alaska, 6 th January
σ	5 th February	27/1 – 17/2	?

At the time of writing, in early January, the last aspect in the above table has yet to occur.

The associated major earthquake occurred on either the day that the aspect was exact between the transiting $\odot$ and X , or when this pair were close to the limits of their orb.

Of course, earth tremors or quakes occur frequently; almost no day passes without one occurring in some part of the world. However those listed above, in the column headed 'Observed Earthquakes', were major ones, and all other than those in Alasaka caused many deaths.

Although Nicole did include in her listing the sesquiquadrate aspect of 21st September 1999, she omitted the semisquare aspect that is exact on 21st December.

The effect of an eclipse does not necessarily last until the next eclipse. There is strong evidence that the effects of an eclipse will begin to manifest some time before it actually occurs in the sky. For example, it can be argued that events in Kosovo several months before the August 1999 eclipse were manifestations of that same eclipse. For this reason the absence of a major earthquake at the time of the final $\odot$ - $\mathbb{X}$ aspect may not be because of the failure of Mme Girard's methodology, but instead be due to the commencement of a different series of aspects involving the $\odot$ and the ruler of the eclipse of 5th February. Having presented that caveat, I note that on 5th February, 2000 the solar eclipse at 16°02' $\approx$ is closely conjunct $\mathbb{X}$ at 16° 45' $\approx$.

Nicole Girard is to be congratulated on the accuracy of her predictions.

RICHARD VETTER responds to Isaac Starkman.¹

Dear Isaac :

1. I don't say you should entirely depend on the memory of the mother if no recorded birth time is given. I say that instead of wasting your time with speculative, pseudo-scientific rectifications you should work with the data at hand, delve into the meaning of the symbols and aspects. That's my experience in practical astrology. Like a hologram or fractal, every chart is overdetermined (multiple encoded): you get the same information in almost every corner, in various ways. For example, if you aren't sure whether the true ascendant is 25° $\mathbb{H}$ or 5° $\mathbb{T}$, just leave the topic aside. You'll probably find that the combination of the first and twelfth phase plays an integral role in the chart anyway — it's a topic not just of the 1st house. There might be a square between σ and Ψ , or σ located in the 12th house, or an aspect between the $\mathbb{D}$ and Ψ and another involving the $\odot$ and σ , or... Cosmic symbolism is so rich, life being more creative than our most refined technical speculations. Just go ahead, use your shovel and start digging in the goldfield!

2. "Validation" of your "reliable", "credible" method sounds great. Yet, as a matter of fact, you aren't the owner of a time machine that will enable you to jump backwards in time and watch the incident in question again. In an honest — or scientific — view there is no way to obtain a real empirical proof of any rectification; which, per definition, is always done afterwards. Usually by different methods of birth time correction you get different results. From these in the end you doubtless take the mean or average. Of course such a procedure makes sense; but you can never be sure that your election is correct. Statistical probability can never guarantee truth!

3. You seem to think pretty poorly of "character delineation". Yet, exploring a person's character is astrology's main target and purpose — in order to help someone to understand himself, in order to help him handle his life's troubles in a better way. Why do you disregard this? In my view the subject of prediction should be mostly dropped in our counseling business — it appeals to our client's

¹ See Isaac's letter in *Considerations* XIV: 4.

feeling of being just another helpless prey of unmerciful gods of fate, whereas in fact they are themselves masters of their own destinies. Instead of paralyzed staring at ominous planets we should strengthen their self-confidence, we should teach people profound self-knowledge: personal integrity and wholeness being the best recipe against any negative or catastrophic event!

4. You say rectification is only possible with events. Yet, in astrology — as in every symbolic system — you just can't equate symbol and event! This would be primitive medieval thinking. Astrology doesn't function in the logical way of A (♂) plus B (♂) is equivalent to C (accident). Our symbols are analogous, i.e. we have an identity regarding sense and meaning (as Jung stated in his famous synchronicity thesis), not in a literal sense. You aren't able to grasp a constellation's concrete realization (which, of course, doesn't mean that it could be all and everything; it still must be in accordance to the underlying pattern or archetype); though straining, we can't flee the conflict situation of our symbols' openness and vagueness!

5. Epistemologically, in its fundamentals statistics are diametrically opposed to astrology's axioms. For we don't believe pure chance rules the world ("God doesn't roll dice," Einstein said). To put it briefly, we can't allow that totally different conception of the world (consisting of probabilities all over) to judge our unique paradigm. But let's go into details. As a student of psychology I was taught that statistics tend to produce artifacts. Why, the greater the number of cases that you study, and the more tests you apply to your data, the more likely it is that some kind of "significance" will be found — but you don't know beforehand what kind or in which direction this will be. (So if you want to publish in a journal of the social sciences, just collect mountains of data and test them — "objective statistics" will surely be on your side!) Of course, this type of research isn't scientific in any strict sense. Popper's demands weren't satisfied by Gauquelin — for his extensive statistical tests were done without any specific hypothesis (to be confirmed or denied). He just took huge amounts of data, crammed them into statistics' mill — and waited for some useful grains to be thrown out... Gauquelin's "miracle" indeed happened — yet others generally couldn't repeat it. Besides, his "confirmations" (the ♂-effect, location in the 9th house, etc.) are pretty thin — and not at all in accordance to classic astrological statements! What else may we expect from artifacts?

In most cases the practical value of statistical results is null and void, anyway. For example, if you receive a "significant" ratio of 480 males to 520 females — what are you doing with this in your counselling job? Does this ratio, which is still close to fifty-fifty (yet the slight difference in absolute numbers being "significant", i.e. not due to pure chance but "scientifically proven"), help you to find an existential decision for your individual client?

We know that Gauquelin had problems with his wife (she left him) and that he probably committed suicide because of that. I suspect the deeper cause was that his life-long, desperate search for sense and meaning had failed. He relied too much on the omnipotence of numbers; in effect, his statistical series had priority over the qualitative (astrological) contents. Yet, our world isn't based on bare quantities; an anonymous framework of figures doesn't bear tasteful fruits, doesn't provide security in an empty and cold world. (There is also a qualitative or archetypal view of numbers; but scientists are usually contemptuous of the

philosophical system of old Pythagoras.)

6. Astrology is first and predominantly symbolism (metaphor), not arithmetic (number). Going back to our historical roots, we realize the first known chart (the Mesopotamian liver-chart) to be without any reference to the stars — but there already existed a complex system of correspondences! Astrology was — and still is — basically a mantic method, a divining or oracular science. Similarly, the technique of chiromancy or palmistry uses the same planetary symbols — without need of any astronomical data.

7. Isaac, you seem to be a follower of modern man's favorite myths: science, objectivity, empirical (i.e. statistical) proofs... So what is science? There is no valid definition of this thing! At least you should differentiate in your use of the term. In my view astrology is one of the metaphysical or spiritual sciences; and these differ enormously from the natural ones. And what about objectivity? We don't have "objective" criteria to identify something like this; there is no outside viewpoint to observe and categorize our kind of reality. (What do we know about other worlds and dimensions?) We are locked up in the trap or cage of human perception; and in the type of measuring instruments we've invented. Astrology is a paradigm of its own and it is based on three central axioms or "laws":

- * analogy or correspondence;
- * time quality and contents;
- * quality of number (i.e. mainly geometrical proportions)

Every paradigm has its own methods of inquiry and research — and its specific instances of truth. Being an independent, self-sufficient, fundamental worldview of its own, astrology can be neither confirmed nor refuted from outside positions like the Bible, natural science or statistics, which are inadequate to test the wisdom of the stars. Since Kuhn and Feyerabend we have no need for apologies any more — science's law of cause and effect is simply incompatible with the magical law of ancient Hermes.

Establishing a critical — and self-critical — mind in almost every person living on this planet seems to me to be natural science's greatest achievement. Yet, contrary to astrology — out of whose holistic model life's values never can become excluded — science definitely has no morals: KZ-doctor Mengele thought his experiments were important for science's progress; the creators of the atomic bomb didn't have many scruples; neither do the pioneers of genetic research... Those guys aren't my buddies! (Don't get too close to them.)

8. Each one of us did abuse his knowledge and powers in former times — mainly in Atlantis (by thorough self-exploration you can sense it). Anyway, being an integral part of the New Age movement most astrologers should at least have heard about these things — whereas the ordinary scientist is absolutely ignorant of them. That's why I hinted at the rectifiers' unconscious tendency to manipulate. Be self-critical; reflect on what it is you are doing! (Why be so foolish and unnecessarily repeat former errors?) Fifteen years ago I extensively studied the relations between birth and death charts. I detected some regularities, but luckily no applicable rule. We shouldn't challenge the gods governing life and death, we shouldn't lift every curtain by force — this was my personal result of the enquiry.

9. You complain about astrology's many contradicting systems and methods. To me this manifold diversity is essentially a good thing. It's an indicator that astrology is alive, open, creative and evolving — not a narrow-minded, strictly conforming, rigid ideology. (We are all in the process, still seekers on the path — individually and collectively.) Moreover, it is my firm belief that astrology is explicitly a subjective science; a science performed by subjects (astrologers) and conveyed to subjects (clients). Within the general frame of the cosmos-bios-relationship many specialized connections are possible — each one of them, if seriously studied, producing fruitful results. So Noel Tyl's way of dealing with the symbols does work — for him and his clients; your approach does work — for you, but not necessarily for me. There is not just one (absolute) truth valid for every one of us! (The axiom of subjectivity or individuality is the main reason why we still adhere to the "childish", non-objective geocentric model.)

You concede that most methods of rectification are unreliable — but not your own. This is the typical response, a reflex of the astrologer's "weak-ego-syndrome" (as I tend to call it). Probably because of our demolished self-esteem — due to society's ignorance and non-acceptance — we have to compensate. It's a crazy thing, but usually an astrologer thinks his own methods are the best — and himself the greatest astrologer in the world. Such an attitude truly doesn't support fertile discussions with colleagues; and, moreover, our perspective gets deviated away from our client's needs to the poor astrologer who so desperately needs acknowledgement.

10. Isaac, you quote several authors to back your position. Can't you speak for yourself (from your own 25 years experience)? You don't seem to have read (or understood) my article "Does astrology need the stars?" that appeared last year in *Considerations* (XIII: 4); instead of arguing against the propositions I have set forth, you are analyzing my chart. In Germany we consider such behavior as hitting below the belt, an argumentation *ad hominem*. Are you serious? Should I act likewise and give you some advice on your (seemingly dominant) ♀? I know my chart pretty well. And I always thought my "aggressive" ♂-♂ just provided provocative garment for my theses, while sincere ☉-☿ (i.e. my love of truth and hatred of illusionary mental constructions) is the responsible source, the core and substance of my writings.

—Offenburg, Germany

ISAAC STARKMAN responds:

I see no substantial reason to continue the useless discussion with Mr. Vetter about rectification as long as he continues to insist that individual delineation of a chart is possible even without knowing the rising sign!

Richard for sure has no familiarity with the methods of Kuhr, Fagan, Polich, Page & Marr and the immense difference between their systems and other systems.

Yes, my program is like time machine, which enables anyone with an open mind and some sense of objectivity to get the correct birth time and to prove it with my unmatched overlapping system. Richard of course will never accept it. It seems that he is inherently opposed to anything that smell of numbers and calculations, and prefers to adhere to an esoteric-mystical philosophy. Instead, I invite advanced astrologers to analyze and criticize the validity and truthfulness of my methods.

—Tel Aviv, Israel

HELEN BEST writes:

Marilynn Lawrence's article on JFK Junior's death (in *Considerations* Vol. XIV, No. 4) raised the matter of the source and validity of progressions. First though, I'd like to say that the tragedy appears to have made sense of some intuitions I had in the wake of the TWA-800 disaster. These appeared in an article in the *Astrological Journal* ("Story of a Prediction," Jan-Feb 1997) that was duly savaged. I had posited a discarnate influence coming from Jacqueline Onassis as being involved in the disaster, and had speculated about "the play of life and death."

It is eerie that three years later, almost to the day, Jackie's son would die in a scenario that had quite a few parallels with TWA-800. In a strange congruence, as rescue workers searched for the Piper Saratoga in the waters north of Long Island, relatives of TWA-800 victims were gathered in the same area to commemorate the third anniversary of the air crash. Even more uncannily, a search was made of a stretch of beach on Martha's Vineyard that JFK Jr. had inherited from his mother.

With TWA-800 I had commented on the approaching full moon that was close to Jacqueline Onassis' birthday. The moon was again waxing on the day John, Carolyn and Lauren died. It would be full, and indeed eclipsed, on Jackie's birthday, 28th July.

In the notes accompanying the article I also observed that the jumbo jet disaster had similarities, in both timing and nature, with the watery death of Mary Jo Kopechne. JFK Jr also fits into this pattern. He died on Friday 16th July, Mary Jo on Friday 18th July. Quite a few commentators picked up the various links between TWA-800, Mary Jo Kopechne and JKW Jr.

But what does it all mean astrologically speaking? I believe such strange things provide clues as to the nature of astrological influence and astrological causation. Our subject may be rather more supernatural than we suppose.

As to the nature of progressions, the ☽ aside, it is standard to progress both the ☉ and the planets. Is this sound astronomically? The principle One Day = One year is based on a putative equivalence between one spin of the Earth and one rotation around the ☉. I'd like to point out that there is no such equivalence where the planets are concerned. ♃, for instance, has a spin of 59 days, and an orbit around the ☉ of 88 days. Clearly, if the planets are to be progressed a different numerical measure to that of the ☉ needs to be used.

Scientific research, by the way, gives some endorsement to the Earth-☉ reckoning. Apparently the brain recognises the number of blips corresponding to one's age. It responds with a temporary shift of hemispheric dominance.

—London



Who ?

- ▽ **Ruth Baker**, a regular contributor on horary matters in *Considerations*, is a professional violinist. Her articles have appeared in many publications. She lives on the Essex coast in England
- ▽ **Olivia Barclay**, the author of *Horary Astrology Rediscovered*, may be the person responsible for the current reawakened concern throughout the astrological world with traditional and classical astrology. Olivia, who celebrated her 80th birthday in December, is the principle of the Qualifying Horary Diploma course, which she directs from her home in England.
- ▽ **Karen Christino** is a consulting astrologer and lecturer living in Brooklyn, New York. She is the author of *Star Success* (Pocket Books, 1992), *American Astrology* magazine's "Choose Your Career" column, and numerous magazine articles.
- ▽ **Paul Mahler Dam** is a leading Danish astrologer, the author with his wife Annelise of five astrological handbooks for professional astrologers, and the founder of the magazine *Orions Flamme*. His son Sigvard is continuing the family tradition, having already authored books on rectification and the fixed stars. Paul and Annelise live in Brøndby, Denmark.
- ▽ **Ken Gillman** is the editor of *Considerations*.
- ▽ **Shelagh Kendal**, a consulting astrologer interested in personal and historical cycles, has lived in England, Canada and the United States. Her latest book *Cycles of the Century* is reviewed in this issue. Shelagh now lives in Ottawa.
- ▽ **Hideaki Shuseh Kokubu** is a trueborn Tokyoite. He is currently a tutor of the Qualifying Horary Diploma course, which he studied under Olivia Barclay. Hideaki spends his vacations mountaineering and backpacking, and enjoys stargazing in the mountains. <http://www4.est.co.jp/-kokubu/qhdc/>
- ▽ **Andrew Patterson** is a mining engineer who lives in Johannesburg, South Africa. Several other thought-provoking articles by Dr. Patterson have appeared in past issues of *Considerations*.
- ▽ **Paul Robinson**, born 4:13 AM CDT, September 17 1953 in Winnipeg, now lives in Vancouver. His training is in Water Sciences, Agriculture and Natural Resources Management. This is Paul's first published article on an astrological subject.
- ▽ **Anne Whitaker's** writings have appeared in a wide range of publications both in the UK and the US. She holds the Diploma from the Centre of Psychological Astrology, directed by Liz Greene and Charles Harvey. Anne is based in Glasgow, Scotland and can be contacted as astrolacad@aol.com.
- ▽ **Constantine Zinoni** is a retired consulting engineer who is mainly interested in astrological predictive techniques and their history. He lives in France in a border town near Geneva, Switzerland.

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